



Wherever  
You Go

*St. Martin United Church of Christ*

*Sunday, November 4, 2018*

*Rev. Terry Minchow-Proffitt, Pastor*

*Kelly Krener, Pianist*

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*\*If able please stand.*

**Centering Words**

*Prayer is a vital part of the life we share at St. Martin. In a few moments we will have a time of sharing our prayers and praises. The votive candles before the pulpit reflect our prayers. Please feel free to light a candle for a loved one. Also, if you'd like continued prayer, please fill out a prayer request card (located in the pew holder) and place it in the offering plate. These concerns will be shared and taken seriously.*

**Prelude**

**\*Call to Worship**

The Lord offers himself to us so that we might be free from all things that lead to death. Let us offer ourselves to God in Christ, the living God!

**\*Hymn of Adoration**    “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”    #72

**Call to Confession**

Let us confess our sins to the God in whom our help comes.

**Unison Prayer of Confession**

**O God, you have been faithful, yet we have not loved you with our whole hearts. Neither have we loved our neighbors as ourselves. Turn us back to you, O God, that we may follow you in the way of life; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Declaration of Forgiveness**

Beloved, you are loved by the Christ who reconciled us to God and one another. You are forgiven, so walk in peace and love. **Amen.**

**Greeting and Announcements**

**\*Sharing of the Peace**

**Children's Time**      "Jesus Loves Me"

*As the children come forward, they are invited to place their offering in the small church at the front of the sanctuary.*

**Prayer Hymn**      "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"      #358

**Prayers and Praises of the People** (See insert)

**The Lord's Prayer** ("Debtors" Version)

**Worshiping the Lord with Tithes and Offerings**

\* **Offering Response**      "Doxology"

\* **Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**Christ, you hear our prayers and answer them. Accept these offerings and use them to your glory, that we might pursue a fuller and more loving life for the sake of Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

**Anthem**      St. Martin Choir

**Written Word:**      Mark 12:28-34

One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, 'Which commandment is the first of all?' Jesus answered, 'The first is, "Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength." The second is this, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." There is no other commandment greater than these.' Then the scribe said to him, 'You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that "he is one, and besides him there is no other"; and "to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength", and "to love one's neighbor as oneself",—this is much more important than all whole burnt-offerings and sacrifices.' When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, 'You are not far from the kingdom of God.' After that no one dared to ask him any question.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Spoken Word**      "A God-Shaped Love"

## **Silent Reflection**

*What does it mean to love God with all your heart, mind, and soul, and to love your neighbor as yourself? How can you love God in this way by paying attention this week to your neighbors' needs?*

## **Celebration of Communion** (see insert)

*The two center rings are grape juice. The outer ring is wine.  
We partake together.*

**\*Departing Hymn** "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" #61

## **\*Blessing**

May the grace of God lift you up; may the love of God hold you close; may the blessing of God be yours forever. **Amen.**

**\*Benediction** "Threefold Amen"

## **Postlude**

### **LEADERS TODAY**

Ushers: Dale Rose Fred Dishner

Reader: Grace Self Greeter: Fred Dishner

Attendance for October 28: 48

## THIS WEEK: November 4 -November 10

Today	9:30 AM	Worship with Communion
	10:45 AM	Bible Study
Saturday	8:30 AM	Fellowship Hour
Sunday	9:30 AM	Worship & Children Church Bible Study

**SANCTUARY FLOWERS:** In honor of Bill and Shirley Miller's anniversary.

**TOTENFEST** will be observed November 25. If you have a name you want recognized, please contact the church office or Grace Self by November 18.

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR:** November 18 Pledge Sunday

Nov. 21 Thanksgiving Eve worship at 7:00

November 24 Decorate church at 9:00 a.m.

**TIME TO THINK ABOUT POINSETTIAS:** An order form is included in this bulletin.

**IF YOU NEED TO CONTACT:** Pastor Terry: 314-304-6818; email: [thechickentrain@gmail.com](mailto:thechickentrain@gmail.com).

**NURSERY:** Nursery is now available for children to go to immediately following children's time.

**DONATION:** You can donate to the church on our website <http://stmartinucc-hr.com>. Click on "Members" to find the donation page and other resources.

**SCHNUCK'S SCRIPTS** cards are available on the table in the narthex. St. Martin receives 1-3% profit from this fundraising effort.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Nancy and Tim Huck (11/4), Jim and Tina LaJeuness (11/7), Bill and Shirley Miller (11/9)

Connect with St. Martin: Address: 3229 High Ridge Blvd., High Ridge, MO 63049 Phone Number: 636-677-5602 website: [stmartinucc-hr.com](http://stmartinucc-hr.com).  
Churchline and bulletins are available for viewing.

## Wherever You Go

Ruth and Naomi qualify as refugees, forced from their home by death and famine. Naomi is going back to the town where she was born but Ruth is a foreigner. These two women will forge a team that will overcome odds, deal with whatever comes up for them and survive against all comers. The result will be good for them and for their community. It's a story that has been told and retold throughout human history, and today, in the same part of the world, and in a similar geography, people who once had homes, and communities and families are displaced and wandering.

"Week of Compassion" is a network of church partners through Global Ministries and our partnership with the Disciples of Christ. It works to ensure our faithful and efficient response to humanitarian needs around the world. Recently they sent a team of people, including a UCC pastor from New Mexico, to a refugee camp in Iraq. The job of these three representatives was to document the work being nurtured to help the women in these camps find a way to support themselves and their families. Some statistics estimate that the number of refugees from Iraq in Kurdistan may be well over 2 million people. Many of those are women and children.

The UCC pastor on the team found herself in Iraq because, as she told the UCC news service, "I accepted the invitation to go to Iraq because I got tired of being numb, of reading about the latest atrocities and then turning the page. I think it's important for us, as people of faith, to see the human faces behind the headlines. Refugees are people just like the rest of us who once had homes, families, jobs, communities. We need to hear their stories." Sometimes loving your neighbor takes you on a journey.

The Pastor's name is Reverend Talitha Arnold, Senior Minister of the United Church of Christ in Santa Fe, a church that has a long history of working with immigrants – in the 1980s it was Salvadorans fleeing a brutal civil war, in the 90s Rwanda and Kosovo swept the headlines with its refugees. Today, the congregation works with its large immigrant population in Santa Fe.

The object of ministry, of reaching out to those in crisis from other cultures, is to recognize that we are all God's beloved creatures and share human needs for shelter and safety and nourishment and community. We have stories to tell each other. We have things to learn from each other. We have things we can give each other. Ruth clings to Naomi and will not leave her. She knows that her future belongs in following a woman from another culture, another language, another home. Ruth follows Naomi because she has no other way forward. Just like the women of Iraq and Syria and all the places that families flee to find a better life.



## Prayers and Praises.

*We encourage you to pray silently or aloud during the pause after each bidding.*

United in the Spirit of God, let us pray for the needs of the world.

- Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, we open our hearts to you. We call to mind world events, both national and international, that concern us globally. And we call to mind our concern for the well being of our earth and its creatures.

*(We pause for your prayers and praises, either silently or aloud.)*

Creator God, help us to see your image reflected in all people around the world, and guide us to be good stewards of your good creation. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

- Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God, we lift up to you the needs in our church, families, and neighborhoods.

*(We pause for your prayers and praises, either silently or aloud.)*

Redeemer Christ, may your merciful and healing presence redeem these who are close in place and heart. And help all who are caregivers. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

- Holy Spirit, breath of the living, we pray for the sustaining gift of your comfort, guidance, and reassurance for ourselves, for all we do this week, and for all we will meet.

*(We pause for your prayers and praises, either silently or aloud.)*

Spirit of Life, we give this week to you. May we breathe you in. Help us to enjoy each day and learn and grow in it. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Now let us pray as Jesus taught us, *Our Father...*

## **PRAYER CONCERNS**

November 4 2018

**Homebound:** Virginia Ahlvers, Hazel Rose, Dee & Dave St. Clair, Joan Roth

**Ongoing Health Issues:** Mary Ann Potthoff, Judy Cope, Ruth Hart, Michael Patrick, Stan Dix, Joy and Nick Coffey

**Surgeries and Recovery:** Shirley Ogden, Cory Callahan, Marla Cooley, Terri Rose, Dottie Varner's mother, Lil Garig (a broken leg), Diana Ross (cataract surgery (11/5), Dan Manson (pacemaker)

**Cancer:** Steve Burner, Rhonda Crawford, Treva Singleton, Dan Manson's granddaughter Rachel, Teri Finan's niece Molly Dignan (leukemia)

**Grieving:** York Family (loss of Keith), Ramsey Family (loss of Russ), Hussung Family (loss of Marsha)

### **Other Concerns:**

Brenda Phye, medical tests

Mike Dickey, care for his parents

Kelly and Steven Dunn as they adopt a child from the Ukraine

For the rising hatred in our nation in light of the mass shooting at Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, the mass mailing of pipe bombs, and the shooting of two blacks at a Kroger in Louisville, KY

Logan, struggling newborn