



March 17, 2024
Fifth Sunday in Lent
A Time to Grow: Restoration

Mantua Center Christian Church
Open Minds, Open Hearts, Open Arms
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
Pastor – Rev. Chad Delaney

Pastor's Contact: 330-569-4926

pastormccc@gmail.com

Website: www.mantuacentercc.org

Wifi pw: mccc1827



If you decide to attend in person, please note the following:

- The upstairs nursery is available for your children. There are also coloring sheets at the entrance for the children.
- After the Children's Moment, all kids through 4th grade are welcome to attend Sunday School class which will run through the end of worship.
- We pass communion. If you prefer, we have sealed "personal" communion cups available at the entrance.
- Offering baskets will be passed around the sanctuary at the start of the "Invitation to Generosity." (You may also *Give Online* at: mantuacentercc.org).
- **Hearing Assistance is now available at MCCC!** Please see Carol Magyarics or Rick Painley (our video techs) for help in setting this up.
- **Want to schedule a meeting with Chad?** Click on the following link or check our website!
<https://calendly.com/pastormccc/meeting?month=2024-02>.

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP
March 17, 2023

PRELUDE

MCCC Center Ringers

“All Things Bright and Beautiful”

WELCOME

Rev. Chad Delaney

~ Invitation for Mission Updates

*Ministry Leaders and congregants are welcome to come forward to the mic,
to give a mission update or share ways for people to
get involved in missions and ministries.*

~ Announcements

SCRIPTURE READING

Ezekiel 36:26-28

Rev. Chad Delaney

WELCOMING SONG

“Morning Has Broken”

#53, v. 5

5 Ours is the God who grants second chances
and never ceases leading us through;
praise for the grace that grants restoration,
praise for the God who makes all things new!
(Words by Jon Secaur)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Frederic Vigne

ONE: We gather here as people who have faith in a story that stretches far
before and beyond us.

**ALL: It's a story that tells us that what we know of life is only
a tiny part of the picture; that here, who we are is still unfinished.**

ONE: It's a story of how God's redemption and restoration rewrites what we
know of ourselves,

ALL: editing our lives with words of grace and forgiveness

ONE: and creating an ending that speaks only of love.

ALL: We gather to worship God! Praise be to God!

~ written by Cheryl Lawrie

***OPENING HYMN**

#517, vs. 1, 3-4

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

1 Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown;
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation, enter every trembling heart.

3 Come, almighty to deliver, let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return and never, nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

4 Finish then thy new creation, pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee;
changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

Invitation

Frederic Vigne

Offertory

Music:

“What a Friend we Have in Jesus”

Sarah Park

[by C. C. Converse]

***Response**

“Accept, O God, The Gifts we Bring”

#379, 2 lines

Accept, O God, the gifts we bring of spirit and of clay,
transform them into blessings on those we serve today.

Offering Prayer

Frederic Vigne

CHILDREN’S MOMENT

Rev. Chad Delaney

SPECIAL MUSIC

Jan Green

“O Wondrous Food, O Cup That Heals”

[by Donald F. Callender]

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD’S PRAYER

Rev. Chad Delaney

One: God of Growth . . .

Response: Help us choose the path that leads to restoration.

HOLY COMMUNION

Meditation

Nora Brant

***Communion Hymn**

#429, vs. 1-2 & 4

“You Satisfy a Hungry Heart”

[Refrain]

**You satisfy a hungry heart with gift of finest wheat;
Come give to us, O saving Lord, the bread of life to eat.**

1 With joyful lips we sing to you our praise and gratitude,
that you should count us worthy, Lord, to share this heavenly food. *[Refrain]*

2 Is not the cup we bless and share the blood of Christ outpoured?
Do not one cup, one loaf, declare our oneness in the Lord? *[Refrain]*

4 You give yourself to us, O Lord; then selfless let us be,
to serve each other in your name and truth and charity *[Refrain]*

Prayer
Words of Institution
Music

Steve Hurd
Steve Hurd
Sarah Park

“Go Carry Thy Burden to Jesus”
[by W. J. Kirkpatrick]

SCRIPTURE

John 11:17-44

Rev. Chad Delaney

SERMON

“A Time to Grow: Restoration”

Rev. Chad Delaney

***CLOSING HYMN**

“Restless Weaver”

#658, vs. 1-4

1 Restless Weaver, ever spinning threads of justice and shalom;
dreaming patterns of creation where all creatures find a home;
gathering up life’s varied fibers – every texture, every hue:
Grant us your creative vision, with us weave your world anew.

2 Where earth’s fragile web is raveling, help us mend each broken strand.
Bless our urgent, bold endeavors cleansing water, air, and land.
Through the Spirit’s inspiration – offering health where once was pain –
strengthen us to be the stewards of your world knit whole again.

3 When our violent lust for power ends in lives abused and torn,
from compassion’s sturdy fabric fashion hope and trust reborn.
Where injustice rules as tyrant, give us courage, God, to dare
live our dreams of transformation. Make our lives incarnate prayer.

4 Restless Weaver, still conceiving new life – now and yet to be –
binding all your vast creation in one living tapestry:
You have called us to be weavers. Let your love guide all we do.
With your Reign of Peace our pattern, we will weave your world anew.

BENEDICTION

Rev. Chad Delaney

POSTLUDE

“I am Thine, O Lord”
[by W. H. Doane]

Sarah Park

*Thank you for joining us at
Mantua Center Christian Church!*

MCCC ANNOUNCEMENTS – March 17, 2024

- * **Hearing Assistance** is available at MCCC! Ask Carol Magyarics or Rick Painley, for set-up tips.
- * **Don't forget to do a random act of kindness and to write it on the clipboard list in the entry of the church!** There is a new list for March. It's just ONE ACT OF KINDNESS EACH WEEK!! Questions? Ask Sandi Kossick, 330-607-7003. How many people do *YOU* think we can help?
- * **CHOIR PRACTICE!** Sarah Park is inviting **ALL** to join us for Choir over the next few months! Please come on **March 24th and March 31st** to sing for Easter Sunday (3/31). Choir will then be practicing **every Sunday morning in April and May**, as we will be performing in church twice a month until the summer schedule. Come join us one and all!!
- * **Chi-Rho will going to the Cleveland Museum of Art on Sunday, March 17th. We will meet Sunday afternoon @ 2:30pm** in the parking lot of **Hiram Christian Church** to then assemble into the fewest cars necessary and head up by 2:45pm (our reservation is at 3:30pm). Questions? Contact Chris McCreight at Chris@HiramChristianChurch.org.
- * **The next 4C's** (Crestwood Coalition for Community Care) food collection is **Sunday, March 24th, 2024**. Items needed for February are: **Cereal, Spaghetti Sauce & Canned Sloppy Joe Mix**. *Monetary Donations are also welcome*. If able, please add these items to your next grocery list. No donation is too small when combined with others!
- * **We will be hosting our annual Easter Breakfast on March 31st at 8:15-9:15am**. Please see Carol Magyarics if you can help in any way (either to serve, set-up or clean-up, or provide needed supplies. Click on this link if you can help with any items! <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090A4EADA62CABFF2-48395627-easter>
- * **The next Loaves & Fishes Dinner is Thursday, March 28th in the Fellowship Hall from 5-6:30pm!!** Please join us and *bring your friends*. This is a **FREE Community Meal** for anyone and everyone! (Monetary donations are gratefully accepted but *not* required.) If you would like to volunteer your time, or help in any way just once a month, text Carolin Newell at (330) 606-7125. The March menu will be coming soon!
- * If you would like to attend our **"Guess Who's Coming for Dinner?" event on Sat. March 23rd**, please be sure to write your name on the sign-up sheet in the entrance of the church! It will be a great evening out!
- * **"Story Time"** for preschoolers, accompanied by an adult, is **every Tuesday from 10:30-11:30am**. **EVERYONE IS INVITED!** What a fun way to share some one-on-one time with your child, grandchild, or niece/nephew!! Contact Pam Auble with any questions: 216-308-7930.
- * **WEDNESDAY GATHERINGS!!** Come join us **every Wednesday** from 1:15-2:30pm for our **"Dwelling in the Word"** (scripture study) led by Pastor Chad. and from **6:30-8:00pm** for our **BOOK STUDY**. The name of the book is **"A Time to Grow; Lessons from the Garden to the Table"**, by Sara Eidson. This book can be purchased on Amazon at the following link: https://www.amazon.com/Time-Grow-Lenten-Lessons-Garden/dp/0664267041/ref=tmm_pap_swatch_0?encoding=UTF8&qid=1707227570&sr=8-1
- * **Attention all Knitters & Crocheters!** Meet us at the **Hilltop Church from 1:30-3:00pm on Monday, March 18th** (We have resumed our regular schedule of meeting on the 1st & 3rd Monday of each month). All are welcome with their yarn projects or hand work creations for chit-chat and show and tell! Questions? Contact Kathy Meier at: 330-840-8944. *Prayer Shawls are always in need!*
- * **Camp Christian's Summer Schedule** <<https://www.ccinoh.com/camp-christian/summer-programs.aspx>> is now available.
- * **SAVE THE DATE** for the annual **CYF Dinner Auction on Sunday, April 21st**. The youth are raising funds for our June Mission Trip to western Kentucky. We'll be helping with the tornado recovery there. Ticket sales will begin soon.
- * **The NEXT Free Clothing & Diaper Giveaway is Saturday, May 11th from 9-noon at the St. Joseph Church, school building.** If you are interested in supporting this worthwhile mission, they are in need of the following items: **donations of new packages of diapers in ALL sizes & LARGE black trash bags, as well as clothing donations to replenish their supplies!** Start your spring cleaning early and donate some clothes if you are able. Questions? Contact Lynn Kelley at (330) 990-8912 or Nancy Tafel at (330) 416-0752. *This is a collaborative effort of area churches.* Clothes may be dropped off at the yellow bin at the south side of our church. This giveaway is open to literally **EVERYONE!** Spread the word! There are extra flyers with all the upcoming dates in the entry of the church!
- * **Mark your calendars for Kathleen Lewarchick's Spring season of Centering Prayer events!** **April 13, May 11, and June 8.** RSVP Kathleen at kathleenmleigh@gmail.com, by the preceding Tuesday to attend.