

Welcome to worship!

We are glad to have you worship with us today.

Safer worship together: We follow CDC COVID-19 protocols for in-person gatherings, which may be adjusted as the situation in our area changes. Currently our county is experiencing **MEDIUM** levels of COVID transmission. The wearing of masks indoors is optional, but encouraged and welcomed.

Childcare: All children are welcome in our service. Parents please keep your children with you. There are children's bulletins available at the entrances to the sanctuary. Our nursery (2nd floor) is open at 10:30am for ages 0-4 years of age.

Communion: Our communion is open to all who seek to follow in the way of Jesus. Pick up a prepackaged communion cup with grape juice, available at either entrance to the sanctuary.

Offering: To contribute financially to the ministries of our congregation, gifts may be placed in the offering boxes at any entrance to the sanctuary. Visit our website for online giving options.

How to become a member: We are part of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), welcoming all who seek to follow in the ways of Jesus. To learn more about us and how to join with this congregation, speak to Pastor Nancy. Look for upcoming Guest Gatherings to learn more about who we are and how to be a part of FCC Morehead.

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Mar. 19	7:00 PM	Faith & Film Festival (Zoom) <i>The Social Dilemma</i>
Mar. 21	7:00 PM	Women of the Bible study (Zoom)
Mar. 22	5:00/7:00 PM	Bell Choir/Choir rehearsals
Mar. 23	7:00 PM	Vespers (Zoom)
Mar. 26	10:45 AM	Worship Service
	3:00 PM	Cave Run Symphony Concert
	7:00 PM	Faith & Film Festival (Zoom) <i>Lucky</i>

OUR PRAYERS

World Council of Churches ecumenical prayer calendar:

Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania

For those who desire our prayers:

The Family of Donna Gonyon, Paul Hart, Helen Rowe, Jim Gross, John Gullett, Tammy Sholberg, Jacob Morrill, Katie Parker, Jim Fred Cassity, Joe Thompson, Eva Johnston, Betty Miller, Mechelle Marshall, Joe Eldridge, Brent Rogers, Helen Hall, Frances Pucket, Maggie Miles, Ned Breschel, Hedy Caldwell.

Prayer concerns and joys may be shared with the office.

Concerns will be posted for two weeks only unless otherwise requested.

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF MOREHEAD

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Resources: Scripture readings: ©1989, ©2022 The New Revised Standard Version (NRSV), Used by permission. Liturgy adapted from: Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.; Music: We Come with Questions, © 2022 Anna Strickland. Commissioned by A Sanctified Art, LLC; Goodness Is Stronger, words © 1995 Desmond Tutu & music © 1997 John L. Bell, WGRG, GIA Publ. OneLicense A-739989

WE ARE DISCIPLES

We are Disciples.....
We prepare God's table for all,
as it was prepared for us.
We embrace the old,
the heartsick, the outcast,
the different.
We believe Love wins.....

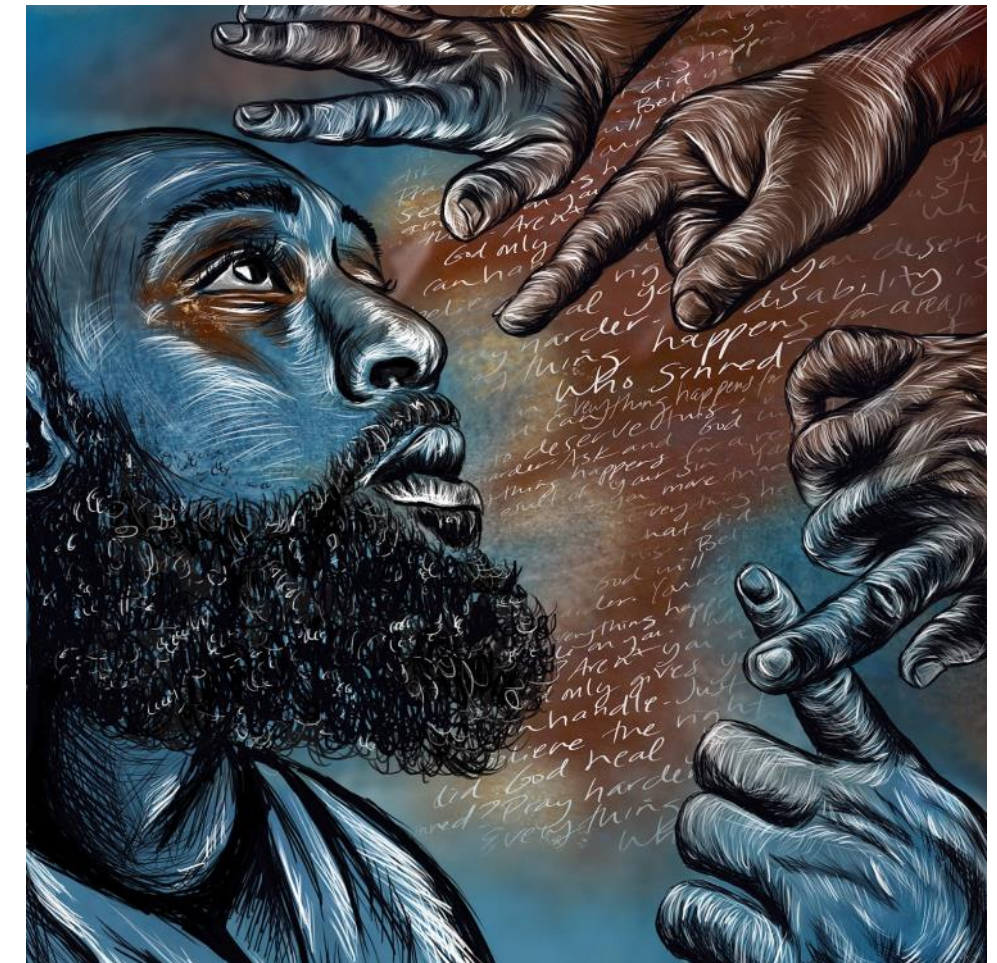
Minister	Rev. Nancy Gowler
Music Director	Genny Jenkins
Keyboardist	Jiyeon McGillicuddy
Interns.....	Katie Webb, Maura McCoy, Mason Pack, Logan Smalley
Liturgist.....	Roy Reynolds
Elder	Anne Buckner
Greeter.....	Connie Kibbey
Audio/Visual Team.....	Ethan Jenkins, Wiley Tanner
Nursery Attendant.....	Katrina Jenkins

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH



seeking:
Who sinned?

MARCH 19, 2023



insight by Lisle Gwynn Garrity, Inspired by John 9: 8-41
(Silk painting with digital drawing and collage) sanctifiedart.org

Acknowledgement of Land

For thousands of years, First Peoples have walked on this land; their relationship with the land is at the center of their lives and spirituality.

We are gathered on the Lower Triplett Creek watershed, part of the traditional territory of the Shawnee, Cherokee, and Osage people, past, present, and emerging, and we acknowledge their stewardship of this land throughout the ages.

March 19, 2023

Fourth Sunday of Lent

*indicates the congregation stands in body and/or spirit

CROSSING THE THRESHOLD

Welcome Rev. Nancy Gowler

Bell of Mindfulness Roy Reynolds

Prelude The King of Love My Shepherd Is Jiyeon McGillicuddy

Call to Worship Roy Reynolds

Scripture is full of questions... Where are you?
Am I my brother's keeper? Whom shall I send?
Who do you say that I am? Who sinned?
How many times shall I forgive?
If God is for us, who can be against us?

Scripture is full of questions, so just like those in our scriptures,
may we bring our full curiosity and wonder into this space.

We gather in hope, trusting in God who listens to us.

Opening Prayer Roy Reynolds

*Gathering Hymn We Come with Questions



We come with ques - tions as - sum - ing that
Here is the mys - t'ry we claim as the
God help us live in - to mys - t'ry be -



there will be an - swers Set - ting the
fol - lowers of Je - sus: Christ has died,
- yond com - pre - hen - sion Qui - et our



world in an or - der that o - beys our
Christ is raised, Christ dai - ly comes to re -
minds al - ways clam - or - ing for some di -



gram - mar We want to know
- deem us Grace free, not earned,
- rec - tion Give us your peace



where Spir - it's riv - er will flow Frus - trat - ed
whe - ther or not we de - serve God works be -
with all that we can't per - ceive Hold - ing us



by her me - an - ders
- yond rules and boun - d'ries
with - in the ten - sion

Prayer of Confession and Assurance Rev. Nancy Gowler

Who here has sinned?
We have sinned. We put our heads in the sand.
We ignored people in need.
We make false assumptions and fail to be kind.
We are in need of forgiveness.
Good news! Our God is a merciful God.
God does not punish, hold grudges, or keep score.
When you suffer, God weeps. When you sin, God forgives.
When you lose your way, God comes running.
Thanks be to God for a love like that.
Have you sinned?
I have sinned. I put my head in the sand. I ignore people in need.
I make false assumptions and fail to be kind.
I, too, am in need of forgiveness.
Good news! Our God is a merciful God.
God does not punish, hold grudges, or keep score.
When you suffer, God weeps. When you sin, God forgives.
When you lose your way, God comes running.
Thanks be to God for a love like that. Amen.

SACRED STORIES

Anthem Amazing Grace Choir

Scripture Reading John 9:1-41 Rev. Nancy Gowler

God be in our listening,
God in our understanding.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon Challenging Our Questions Rev. Nancy Gowler

RESPONDING TO GOD'S STORY

*Song of Response My Shepherd, You Supply My Need 80

Prayers of the People Roy Reynolds

Lord in your mercy...
hear our prayer.
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth,
as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.

Passing of the Peace Rev. Nancy Gowler

Peace be with you!
And also with you.

Invitation to Communion Anne Buckner

All are welcome at Christ's table.

Everyone is welcome at Christ's table.

Our Story at the Table Rev. Nancy Gowler

Communion Prayer Anne Buckner

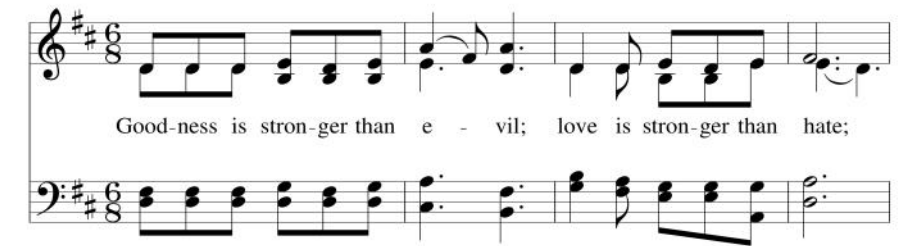
The Sharing Rev. Nancy Gowler

Meditation Repentance Medley Jiyeon McGillicuddy

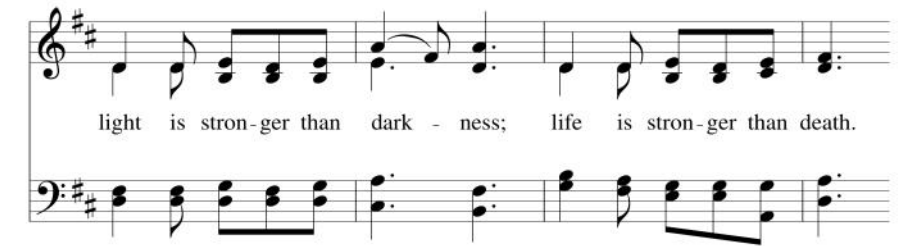
GOING OUT AS GOD'S PEOPLE

*Benediction Rev. Nancy Gowler

*Sung Response Goodness is Stronger than Evil



Good-ness is stron-ger than e - vil; love is stron-ger than hate;



light is stron-ger than dark - ness; life is stron-ger than death.



Vic - tory is ours, vic - tory is ours

Oh, vic - tory is ours, vic - tory is



through him who loved us. us.

ours through him who loved us. us.

Postlude My Shepherd, You Supply My Need Jiyeon McGillicuddy