

WELCOME
SUNDAY, JANUARY 7



FOR YOUR MEDITATION

If you permit this evil, what is the good of the good of your
life?

— *Stanley Kunitz*

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 2018

RINGING OF THE TOWER BELL

Let us quiet our voices and silence our communication devices as we prepare for worship

PRELUDE

Variations on "All Creatures of Our God and King"
Charles Callahan

WELCOME

REV. MICHAEL ELLICK

PRACTICING THE PRESENCE OF GOD

INTROIT

SOLOIST: SHERYL WOOD

"In the Bleak Midwinter"

Harold Darke

OPENING SONG*

NCH #32

"God of the Sparrow, God of the Whale"

ANCIENT TESTIMONY

REV. ELLICK

Romans 8:18-24

I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God.

We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies. For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have?

CHILDREN'S SONG

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine (2x)
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

REV. ELIZABETH DURANT

Children ages 4 to 12 are invited downstairs to our Story classroom for Godly Play. Or story this week is "The Holy Family: Flight to Egypt" with Batya Podos. Parents, please pick up your children downstairs following worship... Thank you!

RESPONSE IN SONG*

NCH #17

"To You, O God, All Creatures Sing"

MODERN TESTIMONY

REV. ELLICK

"Love This"

Gretchen Primack

The body floods with chemicals saying, Love this,
and she does, and births it; it is a boy
she begins to clean and nose, but he is dragged
away by his back feet. She will never touch him
again, though she hears him howl and calls back
for days.

Her breast milk is banked for others. Her son
is pulled away to lie in his box.
He will be packed for slaughter. How ingenious
we are! To make product from byproduct:
make use of the child,
kill and pack and truck him to plates

And when the gallons slow, we start over,
and her body says, Love this! And she does,
though in a moment she will never touch
him again. His milk is not for him.

**Please rise as you are able.*

And when the milk slows too slow,
she will join him on the line, pounds
of ground. And how we will dine!
And talk of our glossy dogs! Her body
will break up on our forks, as mothers
beg us for the grain we stuffed her with,
and children beg us for the water
scouring her blood from the factory walls.

And when her wastes and gases and panic
heat our air so hot our world stops
breathing—then will we stop?
Then will we grow kind,
let the air cool and mothers breathe?

RESPONSE IN SONG

NCH #475

“God’s Eye is on the Sparrow”

INTERPRETATION FOR OUR TIME

REV. DAVID CLOUGH

“Living with God’s Other Creatures”

ANTHEM

“The Prayer of St. Francis”

Rene Clausen

PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father and Mother who are 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 debts as we
forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver
us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the
glory, forever. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY

A Franciscan Pastoral

Franklin Ashdown

DOXOLOGY*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God for all that love has done;

Creator, Christ and Spirit, One. Amen.

SERVICE OF COMMUNION

CLOSING SONG*

“I Leave You There”

Al Carmines

I leave you there,

Do not, do not despair

Remain in a circle

And do not despair

BENEDICTION *

REV. CLOUGH



**Please rise as you are able.*

TO KEEP IN PRAYER

Please keep your thoughts and prayers with: Roger Walcker; Pat Kerwin; Jan & Ray Velez; Katherine Brumbaugh; Anne Lemar; Logan Hlavacka; Cynthia Lybarger; the family of Bob and Dorothy Larsen; Rick, friend of Monica Wheeler; Tom, roommate of Pat Kerwin; and Joe Becker.

Do you have a prayer request to share with the congregation? Would you like to receive prayer requests (usually 2-4 per month) via email? Member Karin Wriggle maintains our prayer chain e-mailing list. Contact her at karinwriggle@gmail.com.

ABOUT OUR GUEST PREACHER

David Clough is Professor of Christian Ethics at the University of Chester in the UK and a lay preacher in the British Methodist Church. He is President of the Society for the Study of Christian Ethics and author of a wide range of books and articles on the theologian Karl Barth, Christian pacifism, and Christian theology and ethics in relation to animals. In 2016 he founded the CreatureKind project (<http://becreaturekind.org>), which works in the UK and North America to engage Christians with farmed animal welfare as a faith issue.

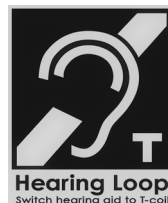
**TODAY,
JANUARY 7, 2018**

WELCOME!

We'd love to get to know you better. Stop by the "Welcome Table" on the main level (Fellowship Hall) to learn more about our community, fill out a New Visitor card, make a name tag, or just chat and say hello.

MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME!

Large-print bulletins (including hymns and announcements) and **listening devices** are available from the ushers. **Pew cushions** are available in the back of the Sanctuary for anyone to use. Please help yourself, or ask an usher for assistance.



GIVE BY TEXT OR WEB

To participate in this morning's offering using a credit card, text the amount you wish to give (include the \$) to 503-902-4744, or go to <http://www.uccportland.org/give>.

SPARE CHANGE CAN ADD UP!

As you know, our 'spare change' donations during the fourth quarter 2017 were designated for the organization OPAL (Organizing People, Activating Leaders). The total of our donation, \$232.49, does make a difference. Thanks, well done!

The recipient for our first quarter 2018 spare change collection is the Portland chapter of PCHRP, the People's Committee for Human Rights in the Philippines. Visit <http://www.portlandchrp.com/> to learn more.

FELLOWSHIP HOUR

Please join us immediately after worship in the Fellowship Hall for coffee and conversation.

GREETERS

Roger and Debra Perry

USHERS

Al Horn, Margret Oethinger, and Bill Cunitz



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL

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If you have any questions or would like to place an announcement in the bulletin, please contact the Communications Office at communications@uccportland.org.

WiFi Password is **belltower**

