

# Millburn Congregational—United Church of Christ

19073 W. OLD TOWN COURT.

LAKE VILLA, IL 60046

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*Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we worship God  
as a spiritually alive church,  
welcoming all and reaching out with love as Christ's disciples.*

**Rev. Miranda Moeller**

**Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**August 25, 2024**

**9:30 a.m.**

Announcements

Greeting and Words of Welcome

Opening Hymn

My Life Flows On

No. 619

1 My life flows on in endless song;  
above earth's lamentation,  
I hear the clear, though far off hymn  
that hails a new creation.

[Refrain:]

No storm can shake my inmost calm  
while to that Rock I'm clinging.  
Since love is Lord of heav'n and earth,  
how can I keep from singing?

2 Through all the tumult and the strife,  
I hear the music ringing.  
It finds an echo in my soul.  
How can I keep from singing? [Refrain]

3 What though my joys and comforts die?  
I know my Savior liveth.  
What though the darkness gather round?  
Songs in the night he giveth. [Refrain]

4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,  
 a fountain ever springing!  
 All things are mine since I am his!  
 How can I keep from singing? [Refrain]

\*Call to Worship

One: O Holy one of hosts, happy is everyone who trusts in you.

**Many: We long to be in your beautiful assembly. Our hearts sing for joy!**

One: O Holy one of hosts, happy is everyone who trusts in you.

**Many: You keep the sparrow and the spring. You sustain the splendor of creation.**

One: O Holy one of hosts, happy is everyone who trusts in you.

**Many: In you, we go from strength to strength. You hear our prayers, bestow blessings and honor, and withhold no good thing. Praise our God!**

\*Prayer of Confession

**Gracious and Holy God, speak to us. So often our prayer time is consumed by our words...when what we need most is your gentle nudges and your bold challenge. Let us hear from you. As you continue to speak, prepare our hearts and minds to receive your wisdom, correction, and confirmation. Transform us for your glory, for our hope, and for the world. Amen.**

\*Words of Assurance

Beloved, even when God seems silent, God is still speaking, listening, and moving in our lives. Know that every moment of attention we center upon the Holy One is faithful stewardship of our time. God, the Redeemer, will honor our seeking, trusting, and listening with blessing, hope, and grace.

**Gloria Patri**  
**GLORY BE TO THE FATHER,**  
**AND TO THE SON,**  
**AND TO THE HOLY GHOST;**  
**AS IT WAS IN THE BEGINNING,**  
**IS NOW, AND EVER SHALL BE,**  
**WORLD WITHOUT END.**  
**AMEN. AMEN.**

Passing of the Peace  
 Young People's Time

### We Hear God's Word

Old Testament Reading (NRSV)

Psalm 84

How lovely is your dwelling place,  
 O LORD of hosts!

<sup>2</sup>My soul longs, indeed it faints,  
 for the courts of the LORD;  
 my heart and my flesh sing for joy  
 to the living God.

<sup>3</sup>Even the sparrow finds a home  
 and the swallow a nest for herself,  
 where she may lay her young,  
 at your altars, O LORD of hosts,  
 my King and my God.

<sup>4</sup>Happy are those who live in your house,  
 ever singing your praise. *Selah*

<sup>5</sup>Happy are those whose strength is in you,  
 in whose heart are the highways to Zion.<sup>[a]</sup>

<sup>6</sup>As they go through the valley of Baca,  
 they make it a place of springs;

the early rain also covers it with pools.  
<sup>7</sup> They go from strength to strength;  
 the God of gods will be seen in Zion.  
<sup>8</sup> O LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer;  
 give ear, O God of Jacob! *Selah*  
<sup>9</sup> Behold our shield, O God;  
 look on the face of your anointed.  
<sup>10</sup> For a day in your courts is better  
 than a thousand elsewhere.  
 I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God  
 than live in the tents of wickedness.  
<sup>11</sup> For the LORD God is a sun and shield;  
 he bestows favor and honor.  
 No good thing does the LORD withhold  
 from those who walk uprightly.  
<sup>12</sup> O LORD of hosts,  
 happy is everyone who trusts in you.

Sermon

“The Dwelling Place of God”

Rev. Miranda Moeller

### **We Respond to God’s Word**

\*Hymn

I Come with Joy

No. 420

1 I come with joy, a child of God,  
 forgiven, loved and free,  
 the life of Jesus to recall,  
 in love laid down for me,  
 in love laid down for me.

2 I come with Christians far and near  
 to find, as all are fed,  
 the new community of love  
 in Christ's communion bread,

in Christ's communion bread.

3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share,  
each proud division ends.

The love that made us, makes us one,  
and strangers now are friends,  
and strangers now are friends.

4 The Spirit of the risen Christ,  
unseen, but ever near,  
is in such friendship better known,  
alive among us here,  
alive among us here.

5 Together met, together bound  
by all that God has done,  
we'll go with joy, to give the world,  
the love that makes us one,  
the love that makes us one.

Prayers of the People

Pastoral Prayer, Silent Prayer

Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)

***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 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.***

Call to Offering

**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.**

## \*Prayer of Dedication

**Strong and Giving God, receive our gifts of time, talent, and financial resources for the building of your kingdom on Earth as it is in heaven. May we give with a spirit of courage, trust, and empathy. May our faithful stewardship receive confirmation through changed lives and renewed communities for your glory. Amen.**

## Closing Hymn

## My Hope is Built

No. 537

1 My hope is built on nothing less  
 than Jesus' blood and righteousness.  
 I dare not trust the sweetest frame,  
 but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

[Refrain:]

On Christ the solid Rock I stand;  
 all other ground is sinking sand;  
 all other ground is sinking sand.

2 When darkness veils his lovely face,  
 I rest on his unchanging grace.  
 In every high and stormy gale  
 my anchor holds within the veil. [Refrain]

3 His oath, his covenant, his blood  
 support me in the whelming flood.  
 When all around my soul gives way  
 he then is all my hope and stay. [Refrain]

4 When he shall come with trumpet sound,  
 O may I then in him be found!  
 Dressed in his righteousness alone,  
 faultless to stand before the throne. [Refrain]

\*Commission and Blessing

Go in peace,  
 Holding onto steadfast hope in a God who does good things  
 Who calls us as ambassadors and witnesses to the kingdom  
 Who sustains and supplies us  
 Whose work is done through our hands, our voice, and our lives  
 And who remains with us now and forever.

\*Congregational Response

No. 312

**AMEN. AMEN. AMEN.**

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**Today's Liturgy:** *For Confirmation: Service Prayers for the Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost Year B* was written by the Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay who serves as Minister for Worship and Theology for the United Church of Christ.

**Celebrating Birthdays This Week:** Nancy Reding 8/28, Chuck Beach 8/29, and Kathleen Nowack 8/31.

**CIRCLE OF PRAYER:** We are holding prayer for the following persons (new in italics): All those dealing with mental health crisis; all those struggling with addiction; those impacted by mass shootings and gun violence, those experiencing loss from climate crisis disasters; our LGBTQIA+ youth and children, as they remember they are loved; all caregivers who need support and rest; Alicia Rayner during her continuing battle with cancer; Ruth Young's cousin David Poczalski dealing with serious health issues; Deb Grandos niece, Susie, as she battles metastatic breast cancer; Doug, a friend of Toot's daughter- in-law, is in stage 4

cancer; prayers for strength and comfort for the Tschannen's, as well as those that will be helping them as they enter a new phase of their journey with Alzheimer'; Tim Chichester for his diabetes struggle; Lorel Chichester for her knee problems, Cindy and Nancy's son, Jacob, as he navigates a mental health crisis; Char's friend, Pam, who was diagnosed with cancer; Lisa Horist's Aunt Joy Ann, who is ill and in rehab; Georgene's friend, Belinda, as she seeks medical answers; Donna Geary's great nephew, Teddy, a one year-old recently diagnosed with cancer; Ruth Young's nephew, John Young, after receiving a heart pump; Ruth's daughter-in-law, Roberta Young, hospitalized with a serious bladder disease; joy for Steven, Nancy and Cindy's nephew, as he has entered a SMURF program for housing; *Sue Heinlein, as she goes through chemotherapy; and Susan Lee, as she recovers from surgery to remove her cancer.*

### **Church Office Hours:**

Monday: Closed (summer hours)

Tuesday: 8:30-2:00

Wednesday: 8:30-2:00

Thursday: 8:30-2:00

Friday: Closed

\*If you need something in the bulletin, please send the information to Susan by **Tuesday**. You can call the office or email Susan at [secretary@millburnchurch.org](mailto:secretary@millburnchurch.org). Thank you for your help.

### **Pastor Miranda's Office Hours:**

Pastor Miranda's ministry often takes her out of the office. While she maintains an office presence Mon, Tues, and Thursday, her hours vary. In order to best meet your needs, feel free to call or email at [pastor@millburnchurch.org](mailto:pastor@millburnchurch.org) to schedule a meeting. Do not hesitate to contact her at 860-751-4452, especially in the event of an emergency. She looks forward to supporting you and serving the community at Millburn and beyond.

**Summer Schedule-** Worship will be held in the Ruth White Room. One service that will begin at 9:30am.

## **Give Back Day Part 2** - Sept 8<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 a.m.



Thank you to everyone who participated in the first give-back day! Since we are hosting a concert soon at the church, we would like it to look fabulous for all our guests.

Please consider joining us and bringing a dish for our pot-luck lunch after service on Rally Home Sunday. List of items that need work will be posted the week prior.

Please contact Diane @diaeti@yahoo.com if you see something that should be on the list for fixing/sprucing. See you then!

**An Evening with Christine Brewer** – Saturday, 9/28, 7:00 p.m. The evening will include appetizers, beverages, a silent auction, and a concert. Tickets will go on sale August 1<sup>st</sup> and will range in price from \$50-65. Sales will be online, and a link will go live and sent out via email on August 1<sup>st</sup>. Links to purchase tickets will also be available on Facebook, Instagram, Millburn Church website, and a Fox Valley UCC wide email. Contact Becky Fuller or Pastor Miranda with any questions.

There is a sign up sheet for volunteers who wish to help with the concert that night. Ushers, set up/clean up helpers, etc. If you are unable to help but would still like to contribute, please consider donating items for a Auction Basket or make a monetary gift to offset the expenses of the concert. This is a fundraiser that benefits the Operating Budget of our church, please consider where you can help support it

**The Discipleship Committee** is making it easier for you to send your thoughts and prayers to fellow church friends. Just stop at the table in Lauren Hall and sign greeting cards to mail to those of the congregation who need support, encouragement, or who we haven't seen in a while. The process is simple... if you see a card, sign it. If you don't see a card for someone, start one. To ensure delivery, cards will be limited to people listed in the church directory.

Remember, it is up to you to help start cards, so we are less likely to overlook someone. If you have any questions, please contact Tricia Mathis.

**MILLBURN UCC NEWS SOURCE** – Visit the new Linktree for Millburn Church. Get all of your links in one place. To add something to the tree email Rolando Lopez at [aflashact@gmail.com](mailto:aflashact@gmail.com). To see the current links, visit: <https://www.linktr.ee/millburnchurch>

**Messenger** - Do you have a special anniversary or event in your life coming up? Do you want to say thank you to church friends for something they did? Say it in the Messenger! Email your announcements to Kris Franks, [psychokittie53@hotmail.com](mailto:psychokittie53@hotmail.com), and she will include in the next month's Messenger. Deadline for submissions is: 9/20, 10/18, 11/15 and 12/20. If you are still receiving the Messenger by "snail mail" and have an email address, we can send the Messenger to your email. Just send an email to the church office, [secretary@millburnchurch.org](mailto:secretary@millburnchurch.org), and request to be added to the list.

**Shirts and decals** are available for sale. The sign up for them is on the link tree site. T-shirts are \$20 and the window decals are \$10. Please make checks payable to Millburn UCC or cash at worship service. Shirts will be made as orders are received and please allow approximately two weeks for delivery depending on the availability of the supplier.

**Coffee Hour Sign-up** - We need your help. Please consider providing items for our Sunday Coffee Hours following the 10 a.m. worship service.

Pick a Sunday on the sign-up chart in Lauren Hall, then sign your name in the space for the item(s) you will bring.

Also indicate if you can help with serving and cleanup (a.k.a. host). Coffee, tea, cream, sugar, cups, plates, napkins, utensils are provided at the church. Host(s) will need to make the coffee and hot water for tea, put out items and clean up afterwards.

If you have any questions on how to make coffee, where coffee pot, hot water pot and other items are in the kitchen.

Please feel free to ask other church members. We will gladly show you.

**Help Wanted** – Seeking men and women ages 15 to 100 to fill several open positions. Contact Becky Fuller and Kris Franks of our Music Department. They are looking for people to join the choir, band, and handbell choir. Even if you think you can't read music, you can be a part of providing praise through music on Sunday mornings. We will show you how! All three groups meet on Wednesday nights: handbell choir at 6:15, choir at 7:15. and band at 8:00. Stop in to practice and check us out. Practice dates are listed on the church calendar. Come for one and stay for all three!!

### **UPCOMING EVENTS AT MILLBURN CHURCH:**

**Council Meeting** - 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month

**Annual Meeting** – August 25<sup>th</sup> after Sunday service

**Rally Home Sunday** – September 8<sup>th</sup> - Sanctuary

**Give Back Day – Part 2** - Sept 8<sup>th</sup> @ 11:00am

**An Evening with Christine Brewer** – Saturday, 9/28, 7:00 p.m. The evening will include appetizers, beverages, a silent auction, and concert.

**Date TBD Millburn Mentor Program**- If you are a person who knows how to do certain things around the church – play the piano, the organ, run the lift, know where keys are, and more – please consider being a mentor. The mentors will teach our new members where and how things operate at church. If you are interested, please see Diane Etienne. Thank you in advance!