

Millburn Congregational—United Church of Christ
 19073 W. OLD TOWN COURT. LAKE VILLA, IL 60046 847-356-5237

*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

Twenty-Seventh Sunday after Pentecost November 24, 2024 8:30 a.m.

Building Empathy- Walk in Someone Else's Shoes

Greetings and Words of Welcome

*Opening Hymn

I Love to Tell the Story

No. 480

1 I love to tell the story
 of unseen things above,
 of Jesus and his glory,
 of Jesus and his love.
 I love to tell the story
 because I know it's true;
 it satisfies my longings
 as nothing else can do.

Refrain:

I love to tell the story;
 'twill be my theme in glory
 to tell the old, old story
 of Jesus and his love.

2 I love to tell the story,
 'tis pleasant to repeat what seems,
 each time I tell it,
 more wonderfully sweet.

I love to tell the story,
 for some have never heard the message
 of salvation from God's own holy word.

3 I love to tell the story,
 for those who know it best
 seem hungering and thirsting
 to hear it like the rest.
 And when in scenes of glory
 I sing the new, new song,
 'twill be the old, old story
 that I have loved so long.

***Call to Worship**

One: Rise up, O God, dwell in the praise of your people. Make your home in our worship.

Many: Let your people be clothed with righteousness, and let your faithful shout for joy.

One: Rise up, O God, remind us of your covenant and your commands. May your presence be a balm and your direction our guide.

Many: Let your people be clothed with righteousness, and let your faithful shout for joy.

One: Rise up, O God, reign with power, wisdom and love. May your kingdom come full and complete.

Many: Let your people be clothed with righteousness, and let your faithful shout for joy.

***Prayer of Confession**

Magnificent God, your greatness humbles us. Your love can be overwhelming and incomprehensible. Your attentive care takes our breath. We recognize that we sometimes suppress the holiness you have embedded in us. We keep silent when our witness could make a difference. We turn away when the pain we observe in others becomes more than we can bear. Renew our spirits, strengthen our resolve, and fortify our compassion to put testimony on our lips, in our posts, and through our lives for your kingdom. Amen.

*Words of Assurance

Dear one, God is sovereign and has chosen you to be a vessel of love, hope, and healing in the world. Creator has prepared you, and Spirit journeys beside you. And, as a community, we engage this work collectively. You are not alone. Heaven and earth join you with strength and grace. Rest in the peace and joy the reigns in Christ and through Christ as the kingdom comes.

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.**

We Hear God's Word

Gospel Reading (NRSV)

John 18:33-37

33 Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” 34 Jesus answered, “Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?” 35 Pilate replied, “I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?” 36 Jesus answered, “My kingdom does not belong to this world. If my kingdom belonged to this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.” 37 Pilate asked him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.”

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

*Doxology

Old One Hundredth

**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

Generous God, we give you thanks for the opportunity to give our offering, to participate in ministry through our material resources, and to show our trust in your provision. Help us be good stewards and generous givers in your name and for your glory. Amen.

*Commission and Blessing

Go,
 Hold fast to the reign of Christ
 Proclaim the good news through word and deed
 Make your life the demonstration
 Keep love as your hope and guide
 Testify to the truth
 And the Sovereign God will be with you
 Now and forever.

AMEN. AMEN. AMEN.

Today's Liturgy: *Testify to the Truth: Service Prayers for Reign of Christ Sunday 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: Margo Paramski 11/26, Matt Lakemacher 11/27, Alexander Polit 11/27, Lynn Doolittle 11/30

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; 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's; Tim Chichester for his diabetes struggle; Lorel Chichester for her knee problems; Donna Geary's great nephew, Teddy, a one year-old recently diagnosed with cancer; Lisa Horist's Aunt Joy Ann, who is settling in to her new home; Donna Geiger's niece, Fay Anne, who underwent breast cancer surgery; Roberta Young, navigating seizures; Judy Kozak, who is recovering after a fall and hip surgery; Jean Lindholm, Diane Etienne's mom, in rehab following a car accident, Susan Lee's sister-in-law, Kim, who has been hospitalized; Carol Rossi's sister-in-law, Pat, and niece, Eileen, both of whom are navigating cancer; the friends and family of Mary Lester, as they grieve her death; *and Ruth Young's husband, Eddie, who is in the hospital undergoing tests.*

Church Office Hours:

Monday: Closed

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. 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 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.

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

Messenger Deadline — 3rd Friday of the month

Mitten Tree — We have adopted a needy family in Antioch that has 5 children. We are buying 3 gifts for each of them. There is a mitten tree up in Lauren Hall with **ONE** mitten left! The white mitten with your name stays on the tree. Please return the gifts by December 1st unwrapped. You may purchase wrapping paper and bows if you would like. We are also accepting throw blankets and snacks.

Join us on Sunday, November 24th, for Service to Serve. During the 10:00 worship service we will worship in a hands-on manner. Following the choir, Scripture reading, and prayer, we will have the opportunity to engage in several service projects. Service projects will include card making and putting together a meal for Safe Haven. There will be service opportunities for people of all ages. This is a meaningful service where we actively engage as the Body of Christ. I hope to see you there!

Calling all bakers! Time for our annual Christmas Cookie Walk. This year it will be held on Saturday December 14th. Please bring in your favorite home-made holiday cookies, fudge, or candies. Please sign up by the bulletin board in Lauren Hall. Drop off is Friday 12/13 from 6-8:00 p.m. or Saturday between 8-9:00 a.m. If you have any questions call Margo at 847-525-3591.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT MILLBURN CHURCH:

Council Meeting - 3rd Thursday of the month

Service to Serve = November 24th, 10:00 a.m.

Pajama Night w/Pastor Miranda – December 1st, 4:-6:00 p.m. in the basement

Christmas Cookie Walk – December 14th, 9:00 a.m.