

# MAPLE STREET CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC

January 23, 2022

Third Sunday After Epiphany



**Sons and Brothers, where shall we go?  
Come and join in worship this Sunday to hear the Good news; God is with us!  
We welcome Rev. Paul Nickerson back to the pulpit.**

Paul's theme drawn from scripture is that the church today is much like Israel at the Jordan River, leaving behind the old ways of life and trusting God moving into a new land. From these "cloud of witnesses" (Hebrews) Paul asks, how do we "run the race" in today's Covid world? Come join us at 10am in-person or online.

Scripture: Joshua 24: 14-18 and Hebrews 11:1-2, 12: 1-2 and 12: 12-13  
Sermon: "At the River"

**After worship, join the Zoom gathering 11:30-12:30pm from home  
(Unable to access Zoom at home, join Pam in the social hall)  
A Second Hour with Paul**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85805740108?pwd=N1ZmUGJQNVdFN085VTINVDk3RHBCdz09>

Meeting ID: 858 0574 0108

Passcode: 626526

One tap mobile +16465588656,,85805740108#,,,,\*626526# US

To guide our time of reflection and dialogue you'll find a worksheet included with the Sunday bulletin. Both the worship service and Zoom Gathering will be recorded. If you miss joining us live, have questions or would like to learn more about ways to participate in the dialogue generated by this special worship service email Rev. Pam Cochrane at: [revpammsc@gmail.com](mailto:revpammsc@gmail.com)

**WELCOME**

Rev. Pam Cochrane

**PRELUDE**

Ji Hye Jung

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: This day is holy to the Lord your God.

**ALL: Let us come ready to see, hear, and touch the Word of God.**

One: Do not mourn or weep, and do not be grieved.

**ALL: How can we be sad when we can experience God's Word**

One: and know God's love through our worship together?

**All: The joy of the Lord is our strength.**

**Let us come together to worship the God of joy, strength, and love.**

**\*OPENING HYMN**     *Rejoice, You Pure in Heart*

Black No. 55

**INVOCATION OF GOD'S PRESENCE (Unison)**

**O God, who gives us strength when we feel weak,  
we gather to hear your Word,  
sing your songs,  
and give you praise.**

**We know that you are always with us, and we are grateful.**

**Help us to live our lives in ways that show you are near.**

**Thank you for your presence and constant care for us — in worship,  
and in each day of our lives.**

**In the name of Christ, who is the way, and taught us to pray saying...**

**LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)**

**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 today our daily bread. 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, for ever and ever, Amen.**

*\* Stand as you are able*

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION & ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**Anthem**                      *The Joy of the Lord*                      arr. David Angerman  
Chancel Choir

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**                      "All We Have"                      Rev. Pam Cochrane

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**                      Rev. Douglas Vooyo

### **CALL TO OFFERING**

We share from what we have and from who we are  
as a sign of our desire to bring good news to the world.  
May these gifts bring light to those in need,  
and put the joy of the Lord in their hearts.

### **PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)**

**O God of all gifts, we join with Jesus in proclaiming the year of your favor.  
Bless our gifts and bless us as we seek to bring joy and comfort to those who are  
unknown to us, and to those who are near and beloved. Amen.**

### **\*DOXOLOGY (Sung in unison)**

**Believe, with a hopeful heart!  
Believe, and shine your light!  
Believe, because the song we sing is sung for all!  
Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,  
give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ his son.  
And now let the weak say, "I am strong;"  
Let the poor say, "I am rich because of what our God has done for us." Believe!**

**SCRIPTURE**                      Joshua 24:14-18, Hebrews 11:1-2, 12:1-2 and 12:12-13

**SERMON**                      *"At the River"*                      Rev. Paul Nickerson

**\*HYMN OF RESPONSE**

*Ours is the Journey*

Julian B. Rush

1. In the midst of new dimensions, in the face of changing ways,  
Who will lead the pilgrim peoples wandering their separate ways?

**CHORUS: God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar,  
We your people, ours the journey now and evermore.**

2. Through the flood of starving peoples, warring factions and despair,  
Who will lift the olive branches? Who will light the flame of care? **Chorus**
3. Though we reach the highest heavens, holding worlds at our command,  
We are yet a desert people searching for the promised land. **Chorus**
4. Should the threats of dire predictions cause us to withdraw in pain,  
May your blazing phoenix spirit resurrect the church again. **Chorus**

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

Ji Hye Jung

*The flowers this Sunday are in loving memory of  
Jane Coyne Beitel  
Jim Coyne  
Bob Beitel  
Beezie Hardwick  
Dick White & Nancy Coyne  
Given by Peggy Coyne*

**Maple Street Congregational Church, UCC**

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**Morning Worship Service — Sundays at 10am**

**Zoom Prayer & Table Worship — Tuesdays at 6pm**

**Zoom Bible Study — Thursdays at 12noon**

**Church Office Hours: Monday - Friday: 10 am – 1 pm**



**2<sup>nd</sup> Hour Worksheet for Maple Street Church**

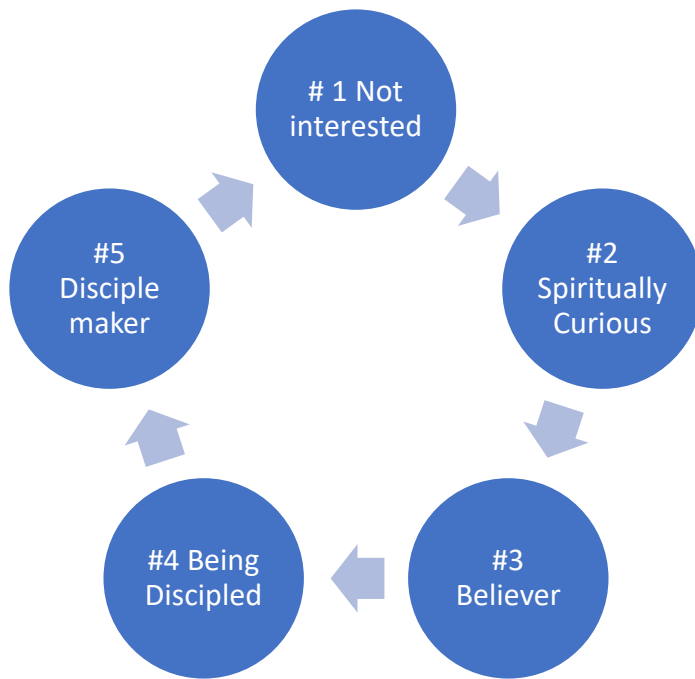
**Jan 2022**

**“Navigating Toward Vitality in this New Reality”**

**With Covid, every church is a **new church start****

**What new church starts focus on**

- 1) A crystal-clear purpose and vision**
  
- 2) Clarity of who the church can reach**
  - What’s the “next group”**
  
  - Recognizing the culture of the community**



**3) Creating “Entry Points”**

**4) “Signature” Ministries**

**5) Online is here to stay**

**6) Being nimble and flexible**

**7) The Great News at Maple St: You are already well underway.**