

Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ

Worship Celebration

May 11, 2025, 10:00 a.m.



Welcome Everyone!

If you are visiting with us, and you are looking for a spiritual community...

where you will be loved, accepted, supported and affirmed regardless of your age, class, ability, race, ethnicity, gender identification or sexual orientation...where you will be encouraged and challenged to reflect on your beliefs, acknowledge your doubts, ask your questions, and grow in your faith...where God's desire for compassion, healing, reconciliation, justice and joy is preached...where you are given the opportunity to put your faith in action through effective outreach ministries...then we hope to get to know you as a new friend.

**No matter who you are, or where you are in your life journey...
You are welcome here!**

An Open and Affirming / Creation Justice Congregation of the United Church of Christ

Seeking to love all people ... growing in faith ...
working toward God's vision of justice, healing and joy.

Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming/Creation Justice Congregation
Worship Celebration
Fourth Sunday of Easter
Mother's Day/Festival of the Christian Home
May 11, 2025, 10:00 a.m.

Welcome

Choral Introit

Sanctuary
The SCUCC Choir

Thompson/Scruggs

Call to Worship

One: As we gather together in this Easter season;

All: Let us open our minds, hearts, and spirits to God as Easter people in
Worship.

Hymn

Great Is Thy Faithfulness #72 (on p. 6)

***On this day, we will substitute the word “Mother” for “Father” in verse 1**

Opening Prayer (together)

Mother God, You call us to serve as a spiritual home for all who choose.

As a spiritual home, You call us to nurture body, mind and heart. As a spiritual home, You call us to be a place of healing and hope. As a spiritual home, You call us to make room for the lost and forgotten.

Teach us. Guide us. Move us to be that kind of home in a world that too often closes instead of opens doors; that too often posts “*Keep Out*” rather than “*All Are Welcome*” signs; that too often physically, emotionally and socially starves others more than it feeds them.

Lead us to be that kind of home. The kind others need. The kind we need.

Amen.

Music Meditation

Just a Closer Walk With Thee

Anonymous, arr. Albert

The SCUCC Choir

A Time of Prayer with The Lord’s Prayer

(Please use the wording most meaningful to you.)

Invitation to Giving

Offertory Music

Let All Things Now Living

Shirley Witte, piano

Keesecker

***Presentation of Offering and Congregational Response**

*Your name, we bless, O Risen Lord
And sing today with one accord
The life laid down, the life restored
Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.*

***Prayer of Dedication (together)**

Gracious, loving God, You promise us that with, in and through You, we always have a home. Always belong. Always have a place of shelter, comfort and renewal.

May these gifts we offer back to You now help give others whatever kind of home they need, whoever and wherever they may be.

Amen.

Ministry of the Word John 21:1-14 (on p. 4)
(New Revised Standard Version Translation)

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

John 21:1-14

After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way.

Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!"

When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off. When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord.

Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

Message

Dr. Boyea

Hymn

When Love Is Found #612 (on p. 7)

Blessing

Postlude

Community of Christ

Lyon/Murray

***All who wish are welcome to stand.**

*As you leave our Worship Celebration today,
in honor of Mother's Day, we invite all our
women to take a toiletry bag as an expression of
appreciation and gratitude.*



Great Is Thy Faithfulness

D D+ Gmaj9 G6 A7 $\frac{G}{A}$ A7 $\frac{G}{D}$ D G G(\sharp) G

1 Great is thy faith-ful-ness, O God my Mother there is no
 2 Sum-mer and win-ter, and spring-time and har-vest-time and sun, moon and
 3 Par-don for sin and a peace that en-dur-eth, thy own dear

$\frac{D}{F\sharp}$ $\frac{A7}{E}$ D $\frac{E}{B}$ B7 E7 A A7 D $\frac{A9}{D}$

shad-ow of turn-ing with thee; thou chang-est not, thy com-
 stars in their cours-es a-bove join with all na-ture in
 pres-ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to-day and bright

D Em $\frac{D}{F\sharp}$ Gmaj7 G6 G \sharp dim7 $\frac{D}{A}$ $\frac{F\sharp m}{A}$ A7 D

pas-sions they fail not; as thou has been thou for-ev-er wilt be.
 man-i-fold wit-ness to thy great faith-ful-ness, mer-cy and love.
 hope for to-mor-row, bless-ings all mine, with ten thou-sand be-side!

Refrain A $\frac{G}{D}$ D B7 $\frac{Am}{E}$ Em

Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Great is thy faith-ful-ness!

A7 D Dm6 $\frac{A}{E}$ $\frac{D}{E}$ E7 A A7 D $\frac{A9}{D}$

Morn-ing by morn-ing new mer-cies I see; all I have need-ed thy

D Em $\frac{D}{F\sharp}$ Gmaj7 G6 G \sharp dim7 $\frac{D}{A}$ A7 D

hand hath pro-vid-ed— great is thy faith-ful-ness, Lord, un-to me!

When Love Is Found

612

N.C. D G C
G G/B C Gsus

1 When love is found and hope comes home,
2 When love has flowered in trust and care,
3 When love is tried as loved ones change,
4 When love is torn and trust be-trayed,
5 Praise God for love, praise God for life,

G Bm Em Am7
C G Dsus

sing and be glad that two are one.
build both each day, that love may dare
hold still to hope though all seems strange,
pray strength to love till tor-ments fade,
in age or youth, in calm or strife.

D D/C Bm Am7 G Am7 G/B Am7 G/B C G

When love ex- plodes and fills the sky,
to reach be- yond home's warmth and light,
till ease re- turns, and love grows wise
till lov- ers keep no score of wrong,
Lift up your hearts, let love be fed

C Am G/B C Dsus D C G

praise God and share our Mak- er's joy.
to serve and strive for truth and right.
through lis- tening ears and o- pened eyes.
but hear through pain love's Eas- ter song.
through death and life in bro- ken bread.

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

“A house is made with walls and beams; a home is built with love and dreams.”

Ralph Waldo Emerson, American philosopher and poet

“A mother is not a person to lean on, but a person who makes leaning unnecessary.”

Dorothy Canfield Fisher, American author and equal rights activist

ANNOUNCEMENTS



To Our Guests This Morning

If you are with us today for the first, or one of the first times, please let us know. Also, please take a moment to introduce yourself, or re-introduce yourself to Rev. Mark. Our hope is to provide you with the most graceful welcome possible.

Office Hours

The Office is regularly open from 9am-3pm on Monday through Friday.

Mark is generally on campus Tuesday-Thursday pending pastoral visits or off-site meetings. Please feel free to just “drop by” or make an appointment directly with him by email: mark@sanibelucc.org or text/phone at 908-477-5426.

Mackenzie Albert, our Director of Music, is normally on campus each Wednesday and some Fridays. Please make an appointment by phone or text at 203-517-5427.

MUSIC@SCUCC

SUNDAY, MAY 18 AT 2:00 PM

AMERICAN OPERA SCENES AND ARIAS

THE FGCU BOWER SCHOOL OF MUSIC
VOCAL SUPERSTARS

join professional singers showcasing
favorite scenes and arias from Bernstein,
Menotti, Floyd,

FGCU
Bower School of
Music & the Arts



All Are Welcome at the Music@SCUCC Concert Series!

Scenes from Menotti's *The Medium*
and Floyd's *Susannah*

Bring Him Home from *Les Misérables*
Bernstein favorites including *Maria*,
Glitter and *Be Gay*, and more

All MUSIC@SCUCC concerts are free.
A reception with the artists will follow the performance.

SANIBEL
CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED
CHURCH
CHRIST

The Music @ SCUCC Series
at 2050 Periwinkle Way, Sanibel, FL 33957
Free will offering at the door • 239-472-0497

SPIRITUAL EXPLORATION

Pending the timeline of Mark's recovery, it is hoped that we will resume our Spiritual Exploration sessions with at least one more unit before the annual late Summer/early Fall break.

We are also looking into a possible online unit offered by another source in the interim. Stay tuned for updates.

BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study will be on hiatus until at least Thursday, May 29, and possibly until Thursday, June 12. Stay tuned for updates.

Each week, we explore the passages which will be part of that coming Sunday's Worship. These sessions are discussion based, with Mark guiding a structured conversation based on participants' questions, concerns and considerations of the text. The passage(s) to be looked at each week, as well as the necessary information for joining in, will be sent by email the day before.



The Choir Welcomes New Members!

Our choir continues to grow and always welcomes new members. **Rehearsals have concluded for this “season” and will resume in the fall. Stay tuned for updates on their expected start up date.**

You may also call or text Mackenzie with any questions at 203-517-5427.

From the Mission & Benevolence Committee

Thank you to everyone who participated in this year's joint SCUCC/Bat Yam Food Drive. **April 17th was the last collection for the season.**

Please keep in mind that donations of any non-perishable food items and bath and kitchen paper products can still be dropped off at the church or left in the Narthex. Collected donations will benefit local neighbors in need through F.I.S.H. and the Gladiolus Food Pantry.

Just a reminder, if you would like to make monetary donations to the Food Pantry, please address your check to SCUCC and include Food Pantry on the memo line.

Shell Point Men's Group May Luncheon

The Sanibel Congregational UCC Shell Point Men's Group will have its next monthly luncheon meeting **THIS Tuesday, May 13 at noon at the Palm Grill in the Woodlands Common.** Please make reservations with Bruce Findley at bruce.findley@gmail.com.

Shell Point Women's Group JUNE Luncheon

The Sanibel Congregational UCC Shell Point Women's Group will have its next monthly luncheon meeting **on Friday, June 13 at 11:30am. The group will meet at the two round tables located outside of the Palm Grill in the Woodlands Common.** Please make reservations with Emily Kletzien at emily.kletzien@gmail.com.

Ushers Needed

Please contact Frank Palaia if you would like more information, or to be added to the contact list to be an Usher during our Worship Celebrations. Send an email to flpalaiajr@cs.com.

INTERESTED IN JOINING SCUCC???

If you are considering becoming a member of SCUCC, or would simply like to find out more about us, please let Rev. Mark know. After you and he discuss the expectations and, as the old commercial says, “the benefits of membership,” you and he can schedule a Sunday that works best for you to become an official part of the SCUCC community.

Like A Ride To Worship?

If you would like a ride to our Sunday Worship Celebration from Shell Point or Cypress Cove, please contact the Church Office at office@sanibelucc.org by **noon on Thursday**.



Art Display

We are delighted to continue welcoming the beautiful and scenic art creations from our talented members and the Sanibel community, on display in Fellowship Hall.

The artist of the month is Peter Zell. Please stop into Fellowship Hall to learn more about him and to view his wonderful works.

A NOTE FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF DEACONS

If the Worship celebration on Sunday is a welcoming and meaningful experience, and you also enjoy a nice hour of Fellowship after, please thank a hard-working Deacon. Of course, many people, including our Minister and our Director of Music are the major contributors, but your Deacons provide Liturgists, Ushers, the beautiful flowers, and Communion. In addition, they also help plan and carry out Memorial celebrations and special services.

We are very proud of our Fellowship Time and special events, and the hard work that goes into making them joyful experiences.

If you see these folks, please thank them for their effort and dedication to the congregation of SCUCC: Joan Burns, Mary Cavendish, LaMoyne Ebner, Sherry Halleran, Sharon Hannon, Engrid Meng, Judy Palaia, Jane Ramseth and Linda Winn.

Thank you,
Shirley Akins, Chair, Board of Deacons



Summer Fellowship Time Volunteers

We need your help. Please consider volunteering your time to serve during our Fellowship Time after Worship. It's a wonderful way to contribute to our community, connect with others, and give back to our spiritual home.

Select a Sunday and mark it on your calendar! You'll find a sign-up sheet on the table at the back of Fellowship Hall. Serving is easy, and help will be available if needed.

Your time, treats, or donations will be deeply appreciated, making our gatherings warm and welcoming for everyone. Thank you for considering this opportunity to serve and strengthen our community!

Assisting With Today's Worship Celebration

Liturgist: Betsy Eidem

Ushers: Neal & Sherry Halleran

Ministers: All Members and Friends of SCUCC

Moderator: Kathy Y. Carter Vice Moderator: Frank Palaia

Parish Nurse: Linda Convertine, R.N., B.S.N.

Music Director: Mackenzie Albert

Church Administrator: Jenny Chacon

Assistant Church Administrator: Tammy Flatley

Tech Team: Dr. Renee Rawe, Luke Crater, Victor Santana, Kirsten Smith

Missionaries: Alex Maldonado-Lizardi & Xiomara Cintron-Garcia

in Colombia

Senior Minister: Rev. Dr. Mark Boyea

Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Dr. Ran Niehoff

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Website: sanibelucc.org

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