**Community Congregational Church of Clinton Heights, UCC**

**January 8, 2023**

**Rev. Kathy Johnson**

**Welcome**

**No matter who you are, or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here!**

**Call to Worship (Psalm 8):**

One: O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

**ALL: You have set your glory above the heavens.**One: Out of the mouths of babes and infants you have created a wall because of your foes, to silence the enemy and the avenger.

**ALL:** **O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!**One: When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established; what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them?

**ALL: O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!**One: Yet you have made them a little lower than God and crowned them with glory and honor.

**ALL: O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!**One: You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet, all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas.  
**ALL: O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth! Amen.**

**Opening Prayer: O Lord, our Sovereign, Creator God, and Love all encompassing, please open our eyes as we praise you and your creation, as we worship that which exists in every corner of your dear earth. Open our eyes to our Earthly Mother as she is the work of you, Creator, and Heavenly Father. Without you, we would not exist. Open our eyes, open our hearts, open our minds today and every day for your message. Amen.**

**Hymn –** For Beauty of Meadows, 696

**Children’s Sermon: God Found God**

**Communion**

**Scripture Readings:** Genesis 1: 20-31

**Hymn -** Ancient Words

**Sermon:** Falling in Love

**Hymn –** All Things Bright and Beautiful, 61

**Prayers for others and ourselves**

**Lord’s Prayer** (using debts/debtors)

**Offering**

**Doxology**

**Hymn –** How Great Thou Art, 33

**Announcements**

**Commission and Benediction Postlude**

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**Manage your giving online:**

Community Congregational Church is excited to announce that you can now manage your giving online! Giving online is easy and allows you to set up automatic recurring contributions and view your complete online giving history from anywhere you have access to the Internet. Simply follow these easy steps:

1) Visit the church website at **www.clintonheightsucc.org**,

2) Click on the **Donate Now** button,

3) Click on the **Create Profile** button, then

4) Follow the onscreen instructions to create an online profile and to schedule your recurring contribution.

Genesis 1: 20-31

**20-23**God spoke: “Swarm, Ocean, with fish and all sea life!  
    Birds, fly through the sky over Earth!”  
God created the huge whales,  
    all the swarm of life in the waters,  
And every kind and species of flying birds.  
    God saw that it was good.  
God blessed them: “Prosper! Reproduce! Fill, Ocean!  
    Birds, reproduce on Earth!”  
It was evening, it was morning—  
Day Five.

**24-25**God spoke: “Earth, generate life! Every sort and kind:  
    cattle and reptiles and wild animals—all kinds.”  
And there it was:  
    wild animals of every kind,  
Cattle of all kinds, every sort of reptile and bug.  
    God saw that it was good.

**26-28**God spoke: “Let us make human beings in our image, make them  
    reflecting our nature  
So they can be responsible for the fish in the sea,  
    the birds in the air, the cattle,  
And, yes, Earth itself,  
    and every animal that moves on the face of Earth.”  
God created human beings;  
    he created them godlike,  
Reflecting God’s nature.  
    He created them male and female.  
God blessed them:  
    “Prosper! Reproduce! Fill Earth! Take charge!  
Be responsible for fish in the sea and birds in the air,  
    for every living thing that moves on the face of Earth.”

**29-30**Then God said, “I’ve given you  
    every sort of seed-bearing plant on Earth  
And every kind of fruit-bearing tree,  
    given them to you for food.  
To all animals and all birds,  
    everything that moves and breathes,  
I give whatever grows out of the ground for food.”  
    And there it was.

**31**God looked over everything he had made;  
    it was so good, so very good!  
It was evening, it was morning—  
Day Six.