



# First Congregational

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

“Hymn Sing”  
July 4, 2021

**10:30 a.m. Facebook Live Service**

*Following Jesus, our mission is to serve God  
by building an inclusive community where uplifting worship  
and relevant messages deepen spirituality  
and inspire acts of justice, service, and compassion.*

***Our Church’s Mission Statement***

Rev. Dr. Laura Miller-Purrenhage, Pastor  
Angela Spialek, Office Administrator  
Nicole Finney, Child Care  
Sue Sackett, Custodian  
Rev. John Baumgartner, Pastor Emeritus

Judy Nielsen, Organist  
Darlene Banks, Bell Choir Director  
Brandon Frost, Choir Director  
Chuck Byam, Choir Accompanist

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## Welcome to First Congregational United Church of Christ!

As you look over the bulletin, please notice that you are invited to read aloud **bold** text.

### MOMENT FOR CENTERING

#### GREETING

One: The grace of Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**Many: And also with you.**

### INTRODUCTIONS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### BELLS/CHIMES

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The prophets of old spoke of God's justice, even when it was unwelcome. Who will hear their message?

**Many: We will listen and we will hear!**

One: Responding to God's call, Jesus traveled, preaching and teaching all who would listen. Who will hear his message?

**Many: We will listen and we will hear!**

One: Christ sent out disciples two by two, to spread the good news in any place that would welcome them. Who will hear their message?

**Many: We will listen and we will hear!**

One: God's prophets are among us still, around the world and in these pews. Who will hear their message?

**Many: We will listen and we will hear!**

HYMNS #584 "I Am the Light of the World"  
#391 "In the Midst of New Dimensions"  
#591 "This Is My Song"

Erica Oliver  
Brandon Frost  
Kelly Stuible-Clark

### PASSING OF THE PEACE

#### ANTHEM

"America the Beautiful"  
*(Brandon Frost)*

#### OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalm 48 NRSV (pg. 507)

<sup>1</sup> Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised  
in the city of our God.

His holy mountain, <sup>2</sup> beautiful in elevation,  
is the joy of all the earth,  
Mount Zion, in the far north,  
the city of the great King.

<sup>3</sup> Within its citadels God  
has shown himself a sure defense.

<sup>4</sup> Then the kings assembled,  
they came on together.

<sup>5</sup> As soon as they saw it, they were astounded;

they were in panic, they took to flight;  
<sup>6</sup> trembling took hold of them there,  
 pains as of a woman in labor,  
<sup>7</sup> as when an east wind shatters  
 the ships of Tarshish.  
<sup>8</sup> As we have heard, so have we seen  
 in the city of the LORD of hosts,  
 in the city of our God,  
 which God establishes forever. *Selah*  
<sup>9</sup> We ponder your steadfast love, O God,  
 in the midst of your temple.  
<sup>10</sup> Your name, O God, like your praise,  
 reaches to the ends of the earth.  
 Your right hand is filled with victory.  
<sup>11</sup> Let Mount Zion be glad,  
 let the towns of Judah rejoice  
 because of your judgments.  
<sup>12</sup> Walk about Zion, go all around it,  
 count its towers,  
<sup>13</sup> consider well its ramparts;  
 go through its citadels,  
 that you may tell the next generation  
<sup>14</sup> that this is God,  
 our God forever and ever.  
 He will be our guide forever.

One: Words from the past, made new for us today.  
**Many: Thanks be to God.**

SUNG RESPONSE #286 (entire song)

“Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness”

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*(Since our services are posted publicly on Facebook, we ask that you either leave people unnamed in your prayer requests [ex: prayers for a friend who is in his last stages of life] or that you obtain permission from anyone you wish to name in prayer.)*

SINGING OF THE LORD’S PRAYER

Ben Banks

HYMNS #173 “You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore”

Brandon Frost

*(English only) vs 1-3*

#472 “Precious Lord, Take My Hand”

Kelly Stuible-Clark

OFFERING MOMENT

*Please give what you can by mail or through prayers.  
 If you have any questions, please reach out to Lynn Hart hartacre3@aol.com*

HYMNS #433 “In the Bulb There is a Flower”

Erica Oliver

#475 “God's Eye is On the Sparrow”

Erica Oliver

BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

“In the Lord I’ll be Ever Thankful” (sung once)

**In the Lord I’ll be ever thankful  
In the Lord, I will rejoice!  
Look to God, do not be afraid.  
Lift up your voices, the Lord is near.  
Lift up your voices, the Lord is near.**

POSTLUDE

“What A Friend We Have in Jesus - Adaptation”  
*(Chuck Byam)*

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## SUNDAY ROSTER

**Liturgist** – Ron Erskine

**Virtual Coordinator** – Kelly Stuitable-Clark

**Music Coordinator** – Brandon Frost

**Pianist** – Chuck Byam

**Organist** – Judy Nielsen

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# In the Bulb There Is a Flower

Natalie Sleeth, 1985

*Unison*

1 In the bulb there is a flow - er; in the seed, an ap - ple tree;  
 2 There's a song in ev - ery si - lence, seek - ing word and mel - o - dy;  
 3 In our end is our be - gin - ning; in our time, in - fin - i - ty;

in co - coons, a hid - den prom - ise: but - ter - flies will soon be free!  
 there's a dawn for ev - ery dark - ness, bring - ing hope to you and me.  
 in our doubt there is be - liev - ing; in our life, e - ter - ni - ty.

In the cold and snow of win - ter there's a spring that waits to be,  
 From the past will come the fu - ture; what it holds, a mys - ter - y,  
 In our death, a res - ur - rec - tion; at the last, a vic - to - ry,

un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.  
 un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.  
 un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.

*Natalie Sleeth composed her "Hymn of Promise" first as a choral anthem and then adapted it to this version for congregational singing. It was dedicated to her husband, Ronald Sleeth, who died shortly after she completed it.*

Tune: PROMISE 8.7.8.7.D.  
 Natalie Sleeth, 1985

*Stanzas, in unison*

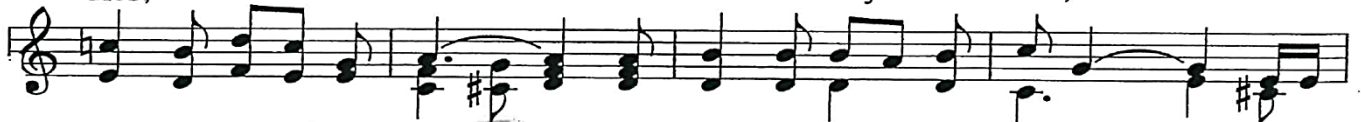
1 Why should I feel dis-cour-aged, why should the shad-ows come,  
 2 "Let not your heart be trou-bled," Christ's ten-der word I hear,  
 3 When-ev-er I am tempt-ed, when-ev-er clouds a-rise,



Why should my heart be lone-ly and long for heaven and  
 And rest-ing on God's good-ness, I lose my doubts and  
 When song gives place to sigh-ing, when hope with-in me



home, When God is ev-er my por-tion? My  
 fears; Though by the path . . . God leads me but  
 dies, I then draw close to my Sav-ior, from



con-stant friend will be: God's eye is on the spar-row, and I  
 one step I may see: God's eye is on the spar-row, and I  
 care I am set free: God's eye is on the spar-row, and I



know God watch-es me; God's eye is on the spar-row, and I  
 know God watch-es me; God's eye is on the spar-row, and I  
 know God watch-es me; God's eye is on the spar-row, and I

*Refrain. in harmony*

know God watch-es me.  
 know God watch-es me. I sing be-cause I'm  
 know God watch-es me.



hap-py, I sing be-cause I'm free, God's  
 I'm hap-py, I'm free,



eye is on the spar-row, and I know God watch-es me.

# I Am the Light of the World



"I am the light of the world!



You peo-ple come and fol-low me!"

If you fol-low and love you'll



learn the mys-ter-y of what you were meant to do and be.



- |   |          |      |        |           |                      |          |   |          |
|---|----------|------|--------|-----------|----------------------|----------|---|----------|
| 1 | When the | song | of the | an - gels | is                   | stilled, |   | when the |
| 2 | 7        | To   | find   | the       | lost and lone - ly   | one,     | 7 | to       |
| 3 | 7        | To   | free   | the       | pris - oner from all | chains,  | 7 | to       |
| 4 |          | To   | bring  | hope      | to ev - ery          | task you | 7 | to       |



star in the sky is gone,  
 heal the bro - ken soul with love,  
 make the pow - er - ful care,  
 dance at a ba - by's new birth,

When the  
 7 To  
 To re -  
 7 To



sag - es and the shep - herds have found their way home, the  
 feed the hun - gry chil - dren with warmth and good food, To  
 build the na - tions with strength of good will, to  
 make mu - sic in . . . . an old per - son's heart, and



work of Christ-mas is be - gun:  
 feel the earth be - low, the sky a - bove!  
 see all God's chil - dren ev - ery - where!  
 sing to the col - ors of the earth!



## Precious Lord, Take My Hand

472

*Thomas A. Dorsey, 1932; alt.*

1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,  
 2 When my way grows drear, pre-cious Lord, lin - ger near,  
 3 When the shad - ows ap - pear and the night draws near,

I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;  
 when my life is al - most gone,  
 and the day is past and gone,

Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light:  
 Hear me cry, hear my call, hold my hand, lest I fall:  
 At the riv - er I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand:

*Refrain*

Take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home.

*Thomas A. Dorsey was known as "Georgia Tom" when he played piano for blues singer Ma Rainey. He started writing gospel songs after what he called "a definite spiritual change." This inspirational song, composed following the deaths of his wife, Nettie, and a newborn child, derives from the tune Maitland.*

Tune: PRECIOUS LORD Irr. with refrain  
 Thomas A. Dorsey, 1932

# Tú has venido a la orilla

(You Have Come down to the Lakeshore)

1 Tú has ve - ni - do a la o - ri - lla, no has bus -  
 2 Tú sa - bes bien lo que ten - go: en mi  
 1 You have come down to the lake - shore seek - ing  
 2 You know full well my pos - ses - sions. Nei - ther

ca - do ni a sa - bios, ni a ri - cos, tan só - lo  
 bar - ca no hay o - ro ni es - pa - das; tan só - lo  
 nei - ther the wise nor the wealth - y, But on - ly  
 trea - sure nor weap - ons for con - quest, Just these my

quie - res que yo te si - ga. Je -  
 re - des y mi tra - ba - jo. jo.  
 ask - ing for me to fol - low. O  
 fish - nets and will for work - ing.

sús, me has mi - ra - do a los o - jos;  
 Je - sus, you have looked in - to my eyes;

son - ri - en - do, has di - cho mi nom - bre;  
 kind - ly smil - ing, you've called out my name.

en la a - re - na he de - ja - do mi bar - ca;  
 On the sand I have a - ban - doned my small boat;

jun - to a ti bus - ca - ré o - tro mar.  
 now with you I will seek oth - er seas.

3. You need my hands, my ex-haus-tion;  
 work-ing love for the rest of the  
 wea-ry—  
 A love that's will-ing to go on lov-ing.  
*Refrain*

# In the Midst of New Dimensions

391

Julian Rush, 1985; alt.

Gen. 9:12-16; Exod. 13:21-22; Num. 14:14

C C/B F C F Am7 Dm7 G7sus4 G7

1 In the midst of new di-men-sions, in the face of chang-ing ways,  
 2 Through the flood of starv-ing peo - ple, war-ring fac-tions and de - spair,  
 3 As we stand a world di - vid - ed by our own self - seek - ing schemes,  
 4 We are man and we are wom-an, all per-sua-sions, old and young,  
 5 Should the threats of dire pre-dic-tions cause us to with - draw in pain,

C C/B F C F Am7 Dm7 G C

Who will lead the pil - grim peo - ples wan-dering in their sep - arate ways?  
 Who will lift the ol - ive branch-es? Who will light the flame of care?  
 Grant that we, your glob - al vil - lage, might en - vi - sion wid - er dreams.  
 Each a gift in your cre - a - tion, each a love song to be sung.  
 May your blaz-ing phoe-nix spir - it res - ur - rect the church a - gain.

*Refrain*  
 Am Em F C F C G7 C Dsus4 D7 G7sus4 G7 Am

God of rain-bow, fier - y pil - lar, lead-ing where the ea-gles soar, We your

Em F C F C/E F C/E F C/E Dm7 G7 C

peo-ple, ours the jour-ney now and ev - er, now and ev - er, now and ev - er - more.

Julian Rush, an ordained minister in the United Methodist Church, has spent more than a decade as director of the Colorado AIDS Project. He wrote this hymn on the theme of "diversity" for a meeting of the Rocky Mountain Conference (United Methodist).

Tune: NEW DIMENSIONS 8.7.8.7. with refrain  
 Julian Rush, 1985  
 Arr. The New Century Hymnal, 1994

1 This is my song, O God of all the na - tions, a song of  
 2 My coun-try's skies are blu-er than the o - cean, and sun-light

peace for lands a - far and mine. This is my home, the  
 beams on clo - ver - leaf and pine; But oth - er lands have

coun - try where my heart is; here are my hopes, my  
 sun - light, too, and clo - ver, and skies are ev - ery -

dreams, my ho - ly shrine; But oth - er hearts in oth - er lands are  
 where as blue as mine. O hear my song, O God of all the

beat - ing with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.  
 na - tions, a song of peace for their land and for mine.