

**First United Church of Christ  
An Open and Affirming  
Just Peace Congregation  
August 2, 2020, 10:30 a.m.**

**Prelude** *Beloved Christendom Sings Today* Ernst Pepping (1901-1981)

**Testimony and Welcome** Kathy Sandberg

**Announcements and Lighting of the Candle**

**Gathering Music** *I Woke Up This Morning* African-American spiritual

One: I woke up this morning with my mind

**All: Stayed on Jesus,**

**I woke up this morning with my mind stayed on Jesus.**

**I woke up this morning with my mind stayed on Jesus.**

**Hallelu, hallelu, hallelujah.**

One: Singin' and prayin' with my mind

**All: Stayed on Jesus,**

**Singin' and prayin' with my mind stayed on Jesus.**

**Singin' and prayin' with my mind stayed on Jesus.**

**Hallelu, hallelu, hallelujah.**

**Call to Worship** Dan Smith

One: Siblings in the Spirit, God is good!

**Many: All the time!**

One: All the time!

**Many: God is good!**

One: Then, come if you are weary,

**Many: for God will give you rest!**

One: Come if you are hungry for connection,

**Many: for God will fill your heart with blessing!**

One: Come if you are looking for transformation in this new normal,

**Many: for God's love, truth, and justice are real!**

**All: For God's presence is here in this sacred time and space.**

**Opening Hymn** *When Morning Gilds the Skies* Laudes Domini  
(see the next page)

MORNING

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# When Morning Gilds the Skies

Ps. 5:3; 59:16-17

Katholisches Gesangbuch, 1828  
 Transl. Edward Caswall, 1854; alt.

1 When morn - ing gilds the skies, my heart a - wak - ing cries,  
 2 New strength comes night or day when from the heart we say,  
 3 Dis - cor - dant hu - man - kind, in this your con - cord find,  
 4 Be this, while life is mine, my can - ti - cle di - vine,

may Je - sus Christ be praised! A - like at work and prayer,  
 may Je - sus Christ be praised! Let sin and e - vil fear,  
 may Je - sus Christ be praised! Let all the earth a - round  
 may Je - sus Christ be praised! Be this the e - ter - nal song,

one pur - pose I de - clare: may Je - sus Christ be praised!  
 when this sweet chant they hear: may Je - sus Christ be praised!  
 ring joy - ous with the sound: may Je - sus Christ be praised!  
 through all the a - ges long: may Je - sus Christ be praised!

*This anonymous German Catholic hymn was translated to English by Edward Caswall, an Anglican—and later, Roman Catholic—priest. Among the scripture references is Psalm 5:3, “O God, in the morning you hear my voice. . . .”*

Tune: LAUDES DOMINI 6.6.6.6.6.6.  
 Joseph Barnby, 1868

**Time With Children**

**Let the children come unto me, for theirs is the realm of God.**

**All who believe must become like a child; theirs is the realm of God.**

**Scripture**

2 Corinthians 5: 16-21

**Sermon**

Rev. Otis Moss III

**Hymn**

*O God, We Bear the Imprint of Your Face*  
verses 1, 3  
(see next page)

Roseberry

# O God, We Bear the Imprint of Your Face

*Shirley Erena Murray, 1981; rev. 1994*

*Unison*

1 O God, we bear the im-print of your face: the col - ors of our  
 2 Where we are torn and pulled a - part by hate be - cause our race, our  
 3 O God, we share the im - age of the One whose flesh and blood are

skin are your de - sign, and what we have of beau-ty in our race as  
 skin is not the same, while we are judged un - e - qual by the state and  
 ours, what-ev - er skin; in Christ's hu - man - i - ty we find our own, and

man or wom-an, you a-lone de - fine, who stretched a liv - ing fab - ric  
 vic-tims made be - cause we own our name, hu - man - i - ty re - duced to  
 in your fam - i - ly our prop - er kin: Je - sus our broth - er we still

on our frame and gave to each a lan-guage and a name.  
 lit - tle worth, dis - hon - ored is your liv - ing face on earth.  
 cru - ci - fy; love is the lan-guage we must learn, or die.

*Composer Bruce Neswick provided this setting at the request of The New Century Hymnal. Neswick, Organist-Choirmaster of Christ Church Episcopal Cathedral, Lexington, Kentucky, is a graduate of the Institute of Sacred Music of Yale University Divinity School.*

Tune: ROSEBERRY 10.10.10.10.10.  
*Bruce Neswick, 1994*

### Sung Call to Prayer

One: We do not know how to pray as we ought,

**All: But the spirit of God intercedes for us, with sighs too deep for words.**

### Pastoral Prayer

#### Response

One: We do not know how to pray as we ought,

**All: But the spirit of God intercedes for us, with sighs too deep for words.**

### Prayer of Jesus

*You are invited to unmute and pray the words most meaningful to you, or follow with the version here:*

**Our God, 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.**

### Sharing our Gifts and Music

#### Offertory

*Offertory*  
from *Little Suite*

Emma Lou Diemer (1927-)

#### Prayer of Thanks

**O God, you expect great things from us. Help us rise to the occasion of your justice, generosity, and love. Bless our reconciling work in the world. May all we do honor and use what you have entrusted to us. Amen.**

#### Hymn of Sending

*Guide My Feet*

African-American spiritual

**Guide my feet while I run this race (x3)  
For I don't want to run this race in vain.**

**I'm your child while I run this race (x3)  
For I don't want to run this race in vain.**

**Stand by me while I run this race (x3)  
For I don't want to run this race in vain.**

### Benediction

#### Postlude

*Postlude*  
from *Little Suite*

Emma Lou Diemer

**We are so glad you joined us for worship today!**  
**Please remain in the meeting for Breakout Rooms to discuss the sermon.**

## **News to Note**

### **Search Team Update**

While the work of the Search Team will not begin in earnest until the Transition Team completes its work, we can announce that John Barbour and Amanda Pettis Eastvold have agreed to serve as co-chairs of the Team. When the Transition Team nears completion of its work, watch for occasional updates and news of blessing the Search Team in worship.

### **Spiritual Practice of the Week**

Each week, the Chronicle will feature different First UCCers leading us through a video spiritual practice, or talking about their spiritual practice and why it's meaningful in a short video. When we speak about spiritual practice, we believe it is important that the definition is open, because we recognize that people find many ways to express and experience spirituality.

Each person making a video will engage the following questions, and if possible, show us how to live into the spiritual practice, itself.

1. How did you get started, or how do you understand this as a spiritual practice?
2. What do you actually do?
3. Why is it meaningful to you?
4. How would you help someone get started in this practice?

This week, watch Sue Evans' video on reading poetry as spiritual practice. You can find it on our church website [here](#). If you would like to share a spiritual practice and be highlighted in this new feature, please contact coordinator Sue Evans, [susancevans@charter.net](mailto:susancevans@charter.net).

### **ISAIAH Update**

Thanks friends. Representative Lippert says that ISAIAH members' work proved valuable in the recent bipartisan passage of police accountability legislation. Many more opportunities lie ahead of us on the policy front "to act justly, and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God" (Micah 6:8). Absentee ballots for both the August primary and November general elections can be obtained at the Secretary of State's [website](#) as a way of voting safely and reducing contact poll workers will otherwise face.

### **Black Lives Matter Lawn Sign Distribution**

Do you need a Black Lives Matter sign for your lawn and aren't sure how to get one? You're in luck! Black Lives Matter Lawn signs will be available through the group, Black Lives Matter Lawn Signs Twin Cities, who will distribute signs in the church parking lot. Contact-less pick up will be available if that is a need or preference. The suggested donation per lawn sign is \$20, and can be made in person or online following the instructions on the [link](#). Once you make the donation online, simply bring your smart phone with you, and show your donation receipt when you come to pick up the sign. Payments are made to First Universalist Church of Minneapolis. After the printing costs are covered, 100% of the

donations go to black-led organizations recommended by [Reclaim the Block](#). You can see the list of nominated organizations [here](#).

Lawn signs will be available in the church parking lot on the first three Saturdays in August, from 11 to 1. If you have questions or would like a sign, but aren't able to make it to church, contact Lisa Sexton by phone 612-839-5475, or via email, [rawlinslsw@gmail.com](mailto:rawlinslsw@gmail.com). Lisa is also looking for people to help volunteer with her on the distribution dates, so if you are interested in that, please reach out to Lisa.

### **Summer Drop-in Hours**

In the summer season, Pastor Wendy and Pastor Lauren are setting up drop-in Office Hours in outdoor spaces or on Zoom. You may either drop-in or send an email in advance that you plan to show up. For the outdoor locations, the rain plan will be meeting on Zoom instead. Dates range up until August 28. Check the [Church Calendar](#) for more details on times and Zoom information.

### **Staff Vacations**

- Rev. Wendy Vander Hart, Interim Senior Minister - August 3 - 10. No drop in office hours this week.
- Andrea Pegram, Finance Manager- August 8 - 15
- Gladys Ehn, Office Manager - August 20-21
- Rev. Lauren Baske Davis, Minister for Congregational Life - August 20-24

### **Giving to the Church**

While we are worshipping online and connecting in small groups virtually, we still depend upon your generosity and gifts! You may give electronically by visiting our website and clicking the "[Donate Online Now!](#)" button, under the Giving tab. You may also visit our website and complete the electronic giving authorization form and mailing it to Finance Manager Andrea Pegram at church. Gifts may be mailed to First UCC, 300 Union Street, Northfield, MN 55057. Thank you so much for your continued support of First UCC's ministries!

### **Care Team**

A note from the UCC Care Ministry Team: WE ARE HERE FOR YOU! Please know that the Care Ministry Team wants to know if you have any needs that can be met by us or members of our congregation. Our team is: Barb Altstaetter 507-645-9786, Barbara Crouter, Linda Larson 612-709-6795, Elizabeth O'Sullivan, Bill Poehlmann 507-645-5422, Katharine Powers, Claire Rafferty, Kathy Sandberg, Jan Shoger 507-645-5236, Kellee Tussing, Gina Washburn, Bonnie and Larry Fowler 507-645-6930.