

First United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming, Just Peace Congregation
January 10, 2021, 10:30 a.m.

For ASL, please pin the video of Mary Jo Cristofaro

Prelude

Prelude in G Major

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Testimony and Welcome

Bob Griggs

Announcements and Lighting of the Candle

Gathering Music

The Word of God Was From the Start

The word of God was from the start. The word drove
The word be - came a child of earth. The word ar -
The word shall be our life and light. The word shall

seas and land a - part. The word made rocks and liv - ing
rived through hu - man birth. The word like us was blood and
be our power and might. The word a - bove all wealth is

things. _____ The word raised up and brought down kings.
bone. _____ The word knew life as we have known.
priced. _____ The word by name is Je - sus Christ.

Text: LM; based on John 1:1-14; Thomas H. Troeger, b. 1945, fr. *Borrowed Light*, © 1994, Oxford University Press, Inc. All rights reserved. Used with permission.
Music: JESU DULCIS MEMORIA; Chant, Mode I; © 1995, OCP Publications. All rights reserved.

Affirmation of Faith

Sarah Are

One: We believe in telling the story—

Many: The story of a loving and merciful God,

Who will not let God's people go;

The story of a baby who grew up and changed the world;

The story of our faith.

One: We believe in speaking up—

Many: For our neighbors,

**For the oppressed,
For the overlooked
And marginalized.**

One: We believe in speaking out—

**Many: Against violence,
Greed,
Abuse,
Fear,
Scarcity mindset,
And bigotry.**

One: We believe in passing the mic—

**Many: So that we are not the only ones speaking,
So that we can lift up the voices of those around us,
So that we too might listen and learn.**

One: We believe in the good news of the gospel.

**Many: We believe that this good news is too good to keep to ourselves.
We believe that those who dream cannot keep silent.**

One: Speak to us, Holy God.

Many: Speak through us, Holy God. May it be so, amen.

Opening Hymn

Songs of Thankfulness and Praise
(see next page)

Salzburg

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

Mark 1:1-11

Emmett Forster

Sermon

Rev. Wendy Vander Hart

Prayer Hymn

Mark How the Lamb of God's Self-Offering
verses 1 and 3
(see following page)

Sung Call to Prayer

One: As your spirit moved upon the waters,

All: God, let your spirit move in us.

Pastoral Prayer

You are invited to share prayers with the congregation using the chat function.

1. Songs of thank - ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to you we raise,
 2. Man - i - fest at Jor - dan's stream, Proph - et, Priest, and King su - preme;
 3. Man - i - fest in mak - ing whole pal - sied limbs and faint - ing soul;

man - i - fest - ed by the star to the sag - es from a - far;
 and at Ca - na, wed - ding guest, in your God - head man - i - fest,
 man - i - fest in val - iant fight, quell - ing all the dev - il's might;

Branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem, in your birth at Beth - le - hem;
 you re - vealed your pow'r di - vine, chang - ing wa - ter in - to wine;
 man - i - fest in gra - cious will, ev - er bring - ing good from ill;

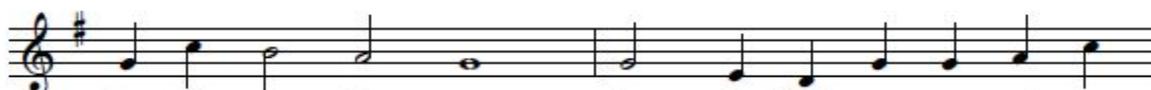
Refrain

"You are Christ," by us con - fessed, God in flesh made man - i - fest.

Mark How the Lamb of God's Self-Offering



1. Mark how the Lamb of God's self - of - f'ring Our hu - man
2. From this as - sur - ance of God's fa - vor Je - sus goes
3. Grant us, O God, the strength and cour - age To live the



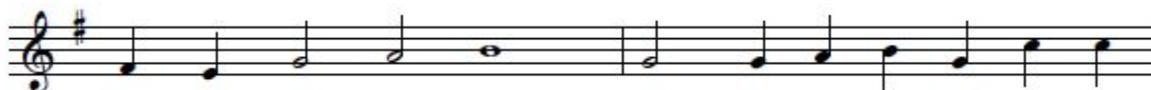
sin - ful - ness takes on In the birth - wa - ters of the
to the wil - der - ness, There to en - dure a time of
faith our lips de - clare; Bless us in our bap - tis - mal



Jor - dan As Je - sus is bap - tized by John.
test - ing That read - ied him to teach and bless.
call - ing; Christ's roy - al priest - hood help us share.



Hear how the voice from heav - en thun - ders, "Lo, this is
So we, by wa - ter and the Spir - it Bap - tized in -
Turn us from ev - 'ry false al - le - giance, That we may



my be - lov - ed Son." See how in dove - like form the
to Christ's min - is - try, Are of - ten led to paths of
trust in Christ a - lone: Raise up in us a cho - sen



Spir - it De - scends on God's A - noint - ed One.
serv - ice Through maz - es of ad - ver - si - ty.
peo - ple Trans - formed by love to be your own.

Text: Carl P. Daw, Jr., b.1944, © 1990, Hope Publishing Company
Tune: RENDEZ A DIEU, 9 8 9 8 D; Louis Bourgeois, c.1510-1561

Silent Prayer

Response

One: As your spirit moved upon the waters,

All: God, let your spirit move in us.

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.

Remembering the Water

During the Offertory music, you are invited to share a body of water that you name holy, sacred or special. A link will appear in the Chat. Click on the link and follow the instructions to add a place.

Offertory

Be Thou My Vision

arr. David Evan Thomas (2020)

Prayer of Thanks

For the waters that gave us birth, the flowing waters that nourish us still, the raging waters that brush us clean and the still waters where we see your glory revealed, we thank you, God. Gratitude courses through our lives and spills out in praise of you, our Source. Amen.

Hymn of Sending

Sent Forth By God's Blessing

The Ash Grove

**Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing,
The people of God from this dwelling take leave.
The service is ended, O now be extended
The fruits of our worship in all who believe.
The seed of the teaching, receptive hearts reaching,
Shall blossom in action for God and for all.
God's grace did invite us, and love shall unite us
To work for God's realm and to answer the call.**

**With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living
The tasks of our everyday life we will face.
Our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,
Embracing God's children of each tribe and race.
With your grace you feed us, with your light now lead us,
United us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving
Give honor to Christ and that name which we bear.**

Benediction

Postlude

Let All Together Praise Our God

Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

We are so glad you joined us for worship today!
We will gather in Breakout Rooms for conversation and community following the Postlude.

News to Note

If you are new to First UCC, welcome!

Have you just begun joining us for online worship? Please consider filling out this [“virtual visitor card”](#) so that we might reach out and connect with you about this community. Questions? Please contact Pastor Wendy or Pastor Lauren.

Upcoming Important Dates

January is always busy here at First UCC, and this year is no different! Despite being online, we will still hold the Budget and Annual meetings. The Budget meeting will follow Zoom worship on January 17, 2021; and the Annual meeting will be January 24, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. directly following a briefer worship service. We hope you will stay after the service and join us!

Ways of Being Home Film Showing and Discussion

On January 31, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. you will have the opportunity to discuss with Chilean-American documentary filmmaker, Cecilia Cornejo, her inspirational film: Ways of Being Home after an airing of the film for you to view from 3 p.m. Friday January 29th through 3:00 p.m. Sunday, January 31st. Cecilia, a professor of Cinema and Media Studies at Carleton College. Her current work, filmed from 2016 to 2019, tells the story of Northfield’s immigrant community’s resilience, ingenuity, and fierce determination, having migrated here from the small agricultural town of Maltrata in the state of Veracruz. Co-sponsored with First UCC by NAIA (Northfield Area Interfaith Association).

Register for January 31st 6 pm discussion with filmmaker [here](#)

A Zoom link to participate will be sent post registration.

[Link to view film between Friday, January 29th at 3 p.m. through Sunday, January 31st at 3 p.m](#)

Password: WOBH_ENE_2021

[Link to view film trailer](#)

Star Words Practice

At the drive-in Epiphany event and in Faith Formation bags, people received a Star Word to contemplate for the year. We will also be posting a different Star Word every day in the season of Epiphany. Along with the word will be a prompt for considering the word and paying attention to how it may shape your day and faith. The Star Word will appear on our Facebook and Instagram pages.

If you missed picking up a Star Word, they will be available in a bin near the south/church office entrance. Drop on by to pick one up and may it provide a meaningful practice for you.

Adult Education: Immigration Issues and Christian Responses

The first in a series of teaching and conversation for our discernment of the Church's role as an Immigrant Welcoming Congregation, will be presented on Monday, January 25, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom by Katherine Tegtmeyer-Pak. Her topic will comprise a discussion of Jason de Leon's Land of Open Graves text. Attendees are invited to read Chapter 1 beforehand. It is available as a [free download on the publisher's website](#), under the "read an excerpt" tab on the right-hand side. In addition to a Q & A, Katherine will offer additional background about US policy-making goals, players and procedures that create the political environment about which the book's author is writing. Attendees are encouraged to build on the discussion by focusing on action steps for our church, as people deepen their understanding of US immigration policy.

Katherine is a professor of political science and Asian studies at St. Olaf College, with a focus on immigration, citizenship and human rights. She has been a member of our Church since 2012.

Centering Prayer on Zoom

Join us as we gather in silence on Zoom, Monday through Thursday from 12- 12:30 for contemplative prayer. Also from 4:30-5p on Tuesdays. If you are interested, email Marian McKone, marian.mckone@gmail.com. You are welcome to join at any time, even if only once a week or occasionally.

Celebrating Black Lives

Join Say Their Names Northfield in Bridge Square on January 16 at 1pm for a celebration of Black Lives. This event will serve to remember Martin Luther King, Jr. as well as recent unarmed victims of police violence. There will also be yard signs available for take home to display antiracist messages across Northfield. Community members can paint repurposed political signs with messages or purchase Black Lives Matter signs for \$20. Any funds donated to signs will be given to <https://www.facebook.com/BLMLawnSignsTC/>.

ISAIAH - New Beginnings

In this time of new beginnings, join hundreds of Northfielders and people of varied faiths throughout MN at the annual (now virtual), statewide, ISAIAH Summit, on January 24, from 2-5pm. Its theme, "We Make MN," speaks to how we together can build a MN "that honors every person's dignity and a caring economy that allows everyone to thrive."

Register and gain Zoom access at tinyurl.com/isaiahsummit.

For more information on ISAIAH, please visit www.isaiahmn.org or send an email to isaiah@firstucc.org.

Giving to the Church

In this time of pandemic, we are worshiping online and connecting in small groups virtually. We still need your 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 the church % "The Treasurer." Gifts may be mailed to First UCC, 300

Union Street, Northfield, MN 55057. Thank you so much for your continued generosity and support of First UCC's ministries!

Care Ministry 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. We serve as the extra eyes and ears of the church, so please speak with any member of our Care Team if you or someone you know is in need of extra support--anything from meals, rides, deliveries of essential needs (groceries, meds, etc.), or weekly check-ins. We can connect you with congregational support. You can also continue to check in with the pastors. Our team is: Barbara Crouter (507-645-6592); Linda Larson (612-709-6795); Elizabeth O'Sullivan (507-321-1221); Bill Poehlmann (507-645-5422); Katharine Powers (651-492-5488); Kathy Sandberg (507-210-2219); Jan Shoger (507-645-5236); Kellee Tussing (952-210-4028); Gina Washburn (507-210-8270); Bonnie and Larry Fowler (507-645-6930).

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First United Church of Christ Leadership and Staff

Ministers - all the people

Moderator- Janet Muth

Interim Senior Minister- Wendy Vander Hart

Minister for Congregational Life- Lauren Baske Davis

Director of Music- Chris Brunelle

Organist- Theo Wee

Sexton- Mark Fischer

Spirit Voices Director/Arts Coordinator- Bob Gregory-Bjorklund

Temporary Office Manager- Grace Muth