



Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost
First United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming, Just Peace Congregation
October 17, 2021, 10:30 a.m.

Welcome to worship! Are you visiting us today? We invite you to fill out our [virtual visitor card](#).

Prelude *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name* Emma Lou Diemer
Jesus Calls Us (1927-)

Welcome and Testimony Julia Hodel

Announcements and Lighting of the Candle

Gathering Music *Come, Let Us Worship God* Ray Makeever (1983)
(join in as directed)

Call to Worship

One: This morning may the peace of God rest upon our busy lives so that we may be quieted into prayer.

Many: May the love of God flow through our worship words that they may be alive with opportunities for service.

One: May the grace of God seek out our every need

Many: And may the restless gospel set our hearts afire.

Opening Hymn _____ *God is Here! As We Your People Meet* NCH #70 (Abbot's Leigh)

v1 God is here! As we your people
meet to offer praise and prayer,
May we find in fuller measure
what it is in Christ we share.
Here, as in the world around us,
all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of the Spirit
into open minds and hearts.

v2 Here are symbols to remind us
of our life-long need of grace;
Here are table, font, and pulpit,
here the cross has central place.
Here in honesty of preaching,
here in silence, as in speech,
here, in newness and renewal,
God the Spirit comes to each.

v3 Here our children find a welcome
in the Shepherd's flock and fold;
Here as bread and wine are taken,
Christ sustains us as of old.
Here the servants of the Servant
seek in worship to explore
what it means in daily living
to believe and to adore.

v4 Sovereign God, of earth and heaven,
in an age of change and doubt
Keep us faithful to the gospel,
help us work your purpose out.
Here, in this day's dedication,
all we have to give, receive;
we, who cannot live without you,
We adore you! We believe!

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.

Anthem	<i>My Lord, What a Morning</i> Ann Gregory-Bjorklund	Harry T. Burleigh (1866-1949)
Scripture	Mark 10:35-45	Bob Gregory-Bjorklund
Sermon		Rev. Cindy Maddox
Prayer Hymn	<i>Shadow and Substance</i>	NCH #398 (Twilight)

v1 Shadow and substance,
wonder and mystery,
Spell-binding spinner of atoms and earth
Soul of the cosmos,
person and energy,
source of our being:
we sing of your worth.

v2 We are your image,
formed in community;
Sisters and brothers of Adam and Eve.
You gave us color,
customs and history;
teach us to honor
what others receive.

v3 Naming the nameless
Spirit of unity,
scanning the heavens for signs of your care;
God of the ages,
give us humility;
guide us to mystical union in prayer.

The Prayers

We will begin prayers in song, then a minister will pray, and there will be time for silent prayer. Then we will sing again. All joining worship on Zoom are invited to share prayers with the congregation by using the chat function at any point during this time.

Sung Response

One: As your spirit moved upon the waters,
Many: **God, let your spirit move in us.**

Prayer of Jesus

You are invited to speak 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.

Offertory

*I've Been in the Storm So Long
Balm in Gilead*

Harry T. Burleigh

Ann Gregory-Bjorklund and Bob Gregory-Bjorklund

Prayer of Thanks

O God, through the offering of these gifts, may we become a more open people: open-minded in hearing your wisdom, open-hearted in healing a broken world, and open-handed in heeding your call for enacted love. Amen.

Hymn of Sending

Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant
(verses 2-6)

NCH #539 (Servant Song)

v2 We are pilgrims on a journey,
we are travelers on the road;
We are here to help each other
Go the mile and bear the load.

v4 I will weep when you are weeping;
when you laugh, I'll laugh with you.
I will share your joy and sorrow
till we've seen this journey through.

v3 I will hold the Christ-light for you
in the shadow of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.

v5 When we sing to God in heaven
we shall find such harmony,
Born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony.

v6 Won't you let me be your servant,
let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace
to let you be my servant, too.

Benediction

Postlude

Postlude from Little Suite

Emma Lou Diemer

We are so glad you worshiped here today!

Zoom breakout rooms are available for friendship and conversation after the service. Whether you attended in person or online, you're invited after worship to a time of fellowship on the church lawn.

We hope you will stay!

News to Note

Worship Information

First UCC worships at 10:30 a.m. in person on Sundays, no registration required. Worship is also live streamed each week on Zoom. Whether you are joining us in person or online, we are glad to have you here! Are you visiting today? [Fill out our virtual visitor card.](#)

Giving to the Church

Thank you for your continued generosity and support of First UCC's ministry. Give online by visiting firstucc.org and clicking the "Give Now!" button under the "Giving" tab, or send in your gifts via mail.

News & Announcements

Keep up to date with all of the latest news and upcoming events! [Subscribe to The Chronicle, First UCC's weekly e-newsletter](#), and find First UCC on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#). Past issues of The Chronicle are available at firstucc.org.

This Week at First UCC

Sunday, October 17

12:15 p.m. Say Their Names Intervention #28 (Bridge Square)

Tuesday, October 19

3-5 p.m. Pastor Lauren Drop-In Office Hours (Bridge Square)

6:30-8 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal (Assembly Room)

Wednesday, October 20

3-5 p.m. Pastor Cindy Drop-In Office Hours (Bridge Square)

6 p.m. Trustees Meeting (Zoom)

7-8:15 p.m. Senior Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Sunday, October 24

9:15 a.m. Children's Faith Formation (Front Lawn)

10:30 a.m. Hybrid Worship

Stewardship Update

Thank you to everyone who has turned in their 2022 Estimates of Giving so far! You may return an estimate of giving card to the church office, or fill out the estimate of giving form on the First UCC website: <https://firstucc.org/giving/estimate-giving/>

Your time and talents are also a gift! Consider filling out the 2021 Volunteer Survey to let First UCC know how you are willing to share and serve. [Fill out the survey here.](#)

ISAIAH (Faith-Based Community Organizing)

ISAIAH is supporting the Northfield school district's excellent work in equity programs and is ready to respond to any troubling efforts at opposing those initiatives. At a recent school board meeting, the superintendent vigorously endorsed a long-term commitment to these programs and warned of national misinformation and even purposeful disinformation campaigns against school equity. With your help, ISAIAH will keep working to support "Honesty in Education" so our schools help engender a just and equitable society for all. Questions about putting your faith into action through social justice and advocacy? Email isaiah@firstucc.org.

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First UCC Leadership & Staff



Ministers: All the people
Moderator: Sam Steinberg
Senior Minister: Rev. Cindy Maddox
Minister for Congregational Life: Rev. Lauren Baske Davis
Director of Music: Chris Brunelle
Organist: Theo Wee
Director of Communications & Operations: Green Bouzard
Spirit Voices Director & Arts Coordinator: Bob Gregory-Bjorklund
Sexton: Mark Fischer

Thanks to this Week's Leaders



Ushers: Anne Meyer Ruppel, Linda Larson, Betsy Barrett,
Pat Richardson, Scott Richardson
Welcome & Testimony: Julia Hodel
Reader: Bob Gregory-Bjorklund
Cantor: Bob Gregory-Bjorklund
Special Music: Ann Gregory-Bjorklund and Bob Gregory-Bjorklund
Digital Zoom Host: Lisa Sexton
Tech Team: Reister Family
Worship Arts: Linda Gagnon