



Sixth Sunday of Easter
First United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming, Just Peace,
Immigrant Welcoming Congregation
May 22, 2022
10:30 a.m.

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

Prelude

Fugue in C Major ("Fanfare")

attrib. to J. S. Bach

(1695-1750)

Welcome and Announcements

Gathering Music

Where Two or Three Are Gathered

Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there, I am there.

Call to Worship

Adapted from Maren Tirabassi

One: Jesus says, "don't let your hearts be troubled," which is to say,

**Many: Don't let your hearts lose hope, your minds be distracted,
your hands turn to fists, or your spirits wilt.**

One: Jesus says, "peace I leave with you, my peace I give you," which is to say,

**Many: that peace that is not simply absence of conflict,
but wholeness, harmony, and completeness.**

One: In our longing, Jesus invites us into seemingly impossible grace—

Many: that we are never alone—God is with us in all times and places.

Let us worship the Holy One!

Opening Hymn

As a Fire is Meant for Burning

Beach Spring

(see page 9)

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.

Statement of Commitment

Excerpt from First UCC Land Acknowledgement Statement

As a community of faith, we at First UCC Northfield acknowledge that our church was formed on the ancestral homelands of the Wahpekute Band and other bands of the Dakota Nation. Our church began here in 1856 when the Dakota were being forcibly removed from their homelands. With God's help, we strive to repair ongoing injustices and grow toward right relationships with Indigenous people.

Anthem

I Will Always Bless the Lord

John Bell

I will always bless the Lord,
Praise God's name and love God's word,
Humble folk will fill with joy,
As in God I glory.

When I prayed God answered me,
From my fears God set me free,
None who trust God's faithful love
Shall be disappointed.

Those who cry are listened to,
Those in need receive their due.
All who seek God's holy way
Shall be kept from danger.

Taste and see that God is good.
Know your yearnings understood.
Praise God's power, praise God's love,
Praise God's name forever.

Princes may suffer hardship and go hungry,
But those who wait on the Lord
Shall lack no good thing.

Alleluia.

Scripture

John 14:23–29

Randy Hachfeld

Sermon

Rev. Lauren Baske Davis

Prayer Hymn

All Things Bright and Beautiful

#31 (Royal Oak)

Refrain: All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful,
Our dear God made them all.

1. Each little flower that opens,
Each little bird that sings,
God made their glowing colors,
And made their tiny wings. *Refrain.*

2. The purple-headed mountain,
The river running by,
The sunset, and the morning
That brightens up the sky. *Refrain.*

3 The cold wind in the winter,
The pleasant summer sun,
The ripe fruits in the garden,
God made them every one. *Refrain.*

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: All:

We do not know how to pray as we ought, but the spir-it of

God in - ter - cedes for us with sighs too deep for words.

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

The Song of the Tree of Life

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1952)

Unto him that overcometh shall be given of the Tree of Life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God. On either side of the river groweth the Tree of Life; the Leaves of the Tree are for thy healing. In the midst of that fair City flows the river of Water of Life, clear as crystal. Whoso will, let him take of the Water of Life freely. Who so drinketh of this water shall never thirst. Take thou the Leaves of the Tree of Life. So shalt thou enter in through the Gates of the City. (adapted from the Book of Revelation)

Prayer of Thanks

God of love and peace beyond our imagination, your Spirit abounds among us. Receive these gifts, and the gifts of our lives, that they may be used to spread your love and peace. Amen.

Celebration of High School Seniors

- Amelia Arnold
- Liv Fossum
- Teigen Hoff
- Tate Journell
- Clara Lippert
- Lars Marroquin-Haslett
- Lucia Poole
- Jacob Reister

Hymn of Sending

I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry

#351 (Borning Cry)

I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,
To see your life unfold.

I was there when you were but a child
With a faith to suit you well;
I'll be there in case you wander off
And find where demons dwell.

When you found the wonder of the Word,
I was there to cheer you on;
You were raised to praise the living God,
To whom you now belong.

Should you find someone to share your time
And you join your hearts as one,
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme
From dusk till rising sun.

In the middle ages of your life,
not too old, no longer young,
I'll be there to guide you through the night,
complete what I've begun.

When the evening gently closes in
and you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as I have always been
with just one more surprise.

I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,
To see your life unfold.

Benediction

Postlude

Spring (from "Four Seasons")

A. Vivaldi (1678-1741)
arr. S. Drummond Wolff

We are so glad you worshiped here today! You are invited to remain on Zoom for conversation and friendship.

News to Note

Worship Information

First UCC worships at 10:30 a.m. in person on Sundays. Worship is also live streamed each week on Zoom and YouTube. 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 now](#), 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, May 22

9:15 a.m. Children's Faith Formation (Assembly Room and Classrooms)

9:15 a.m. Youth Group

9:15 a.m. Pop-Up Yoga (Lawn)

10:30 a.m. Worship

11:30 a.m. Social Justice Ministries Fair (Assembly Room)

11:45 a.m. New Member Orientation (Sanctuary)

Tuesday, May 24

1 – 2:30 p.m. Staff Meeting (Assembly Room)

Wednesday, May 25

6:30 p.m. The Great Escape (Big Room)

Thursday, May 26

1:30 p.m. CONNECT Group (Library)

Saturday, May 28

4 p.m. – 6 p.m. CYAN General Meeting

Sunday, May 29

10:30 a.m. Worship

3:30 p.m. Wee-Smithson Family Reception (Assembly Room)

Masks Required

Rice County is currently in the Red Zone for COVID risk and transmission. The COVID Task Force is moving to require that everyone mask while in the church building. While wearing a mask, we protect both ourselves and those around us. The most effective mask is a KN95 or N95; if you do not have these, the next best option is to double mask. If you wear a single mask, a surgical mask is more effective than cloth. There are surgical masks available at the church entrances.

Social Justice Ministries Fair TODAY May 22

Please join us in the Assembly Room after worship today to learn about all the justice teams at First UCC and what each one is doing! Come learn, connect, get inspired, or even volunteer. There will be treats!

Join Us! New Member Orientation TODAY May 22

Spring 2022 New Member Sunday is Sunday, June 5. A New Member Orientation session will be held after worship at 11:45 am today, May 22 at the back of the Sanctuary. We hope that those of you who have not "officially" become members of First UCC yet will plan to join us!

Coffee Hour Volunteers Needed

First UCC is seeking volunteer hosts for Coffee Hour for the summer months! Volunteering is easy; simply pick up First UCC's order at Brick Oven Bakery on the Sunday morning you are hosting, make coffee in the First UCC kitchen, and clean up afterward! If you're a baker and want to supplement with your own treats, you are welcome to. Instructions are available for those willing to help but who haven't hosted coffee hour in the past. The dates for Coffee Hour this summer are June 5 and 19, July 10 and 24, and August 7 and 21. [Sign up here](#), and also find the link to sign up at firstucc.org. Questions or concerns? Please contact Sue Evans at susancevans@charter.net

Say Their Names Intervention #35

This month, Say Their Names will gather on the second anniversary of George Floyd's murder, Thursday May 25th, at 7 a.m. in Bridge Square. There will be a remembrance of George Floyd and a celebration of the influential work of psychologist Dr. Mamie Phipps Clark in honor of national mental health awareness month. For those who feel comfortable, there will be chalk available to chalk names.

ISAIAH (Faith Based Community Organizing)

As the MN Legislature reaches its last full week of session, your calls and emails to advocate for affordable housing are crucial. Housing omnibus bills have passed both the House and Senate, but differ significantly. Conference committee negotiations are happening right now. Especially emphasize the need for Emergency COVID Rental Assistance and Bonding to increase the supply of sound, affordable housing. Share why you care in your own words; faith language can be very appropriate.

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I Will Always Bless the Lord by John Bell © 1997 WGRG

The Song of the Tree of Life by Vaughan Williams © 1952 Oxford University Press

First UCC Leadership & Staff



Ministers: All the people

Moderator: Deb Gottfried

Senior Minister: Rev. Cindy Maddox

Associate Minister: 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

AV Technician: Brynn Artley

Sexton: Mark Fischer

Thanks to this Week's Leaders



Ushers: Ann Sullivan, Dan Sullivan, Muriel Hachfeld, Nancy Barbour, Betsy Barrett

Reader: Randy Hachfeld

Digital Zoom Host: Elise Eslinger

Tech Team: Extraordinary Youth

Worship Arts: Linda Gagnon

As a Fire Is Meant for Burning



1. As a fire is meant for burn - ing With a
2. We are learn - ers; we are teach - ers; We are
3. As a green bud in the spring - time Is a



bright and warm-ing flame, So the church is meant for
pil - grims on the way. We are seek - ers; we are
sign of life re - newed, So may we be signs of



mis - sion, Giv - ing glo - ry to God's name.
giv - ers; We are ves - sels made of clay.
one - ness 'Mid earth's peo - ples, man - y hues.



Not to preach our creeds or cust - oms, But to
By our gen - tle, lov - ing ac - tions, We would
As a rain - bow lights the heav - ens When a



build a bridge of care, We join hands a - cross the
show that Christ is light. In a hum - ble, lis - t'ning
storm is past and gone, May our lives re - flect the



na - tions, Find - ing neigh - bors ev - 'ry - where.
Spir - it, We would live to God's de - light.
ra - diance Of God's new and glor - ious dawn.

Text: Ruth Duck, b.1947, © 1992, GIA Publications, Inc.
Tune: BEACH SPRING, 8 7 8 7 D; *The Sacred Harp*, 1844; harm. by Marty Haugen, b.1950