

**First United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming
Just Peace Congregation
July 19, 2020, 10:30 a.m.**

Prelude

Prelude
from *Music for a Sunday Morning*

Theodore Beck (1929-2003)

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Candle

Gathering Music

The Kingdom of God

Austin C. Lovelace (1985)

Refrain: **It is like the kingdom of God and a mystery.**

Call to Worship

One: Beloved of God, whether you are here for an hour or a lifetime,
gather and know the deep welcome of God's love.

All: Here where our God greets us with compassion.

One: Here where a community meets us wherever we are on the journey.

All: Here where our lives are grounded, growing and acting in love.

One: Sisters, brothers, siblings in the Spirit, come, gather in!

All: And let us worship the Living God!

Opening Hymn

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

St. Denio

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious, your great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
Not wanting, not wasting, but ruling in might;
Your justice like mountains high soaring above
Your clouds, which are fountains of goodness and
love

So perfect your glory, so brilliant your light,
Your angels adore you, all veiling their sight.
All praise we now render as your angels do,
In awe at the splendor of light hiding you.

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 4:7

Elliot Davis, Calvin Detert, Addison Doeden, Charlotte Doeden, Kate Freeze,
Ani Gottfried, Norah Gottfried, Asher Rhoades, David Rhoades, Henry Thorkelson

Sermon

Rev. Wendy Vander Hart

Hymn

As a Fire Is Meant for Burning
(see next page)

Beach Spring

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

Air

Theodore Beck

Prayer of Thanks

Take and receive these gifts, dear God, bless and multiply them, that they may show the world your glory, shining through our lives. Amen.

Hymn of Sending

My Soul, Go Forth, This Summer Day
(see page following the next page)

I Denna Ljuva Sommartid

Benediction

Postlude

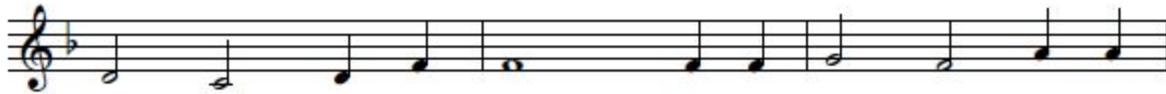
Fughetta

Theodore Beck

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 hued.



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.

MY SOUL, GO FORTH, THIS SUMMER DAY

Paul Gerhardt, 1653
Tr. Britt Hallqvist, 1980, alt.

I DENNA LJUVA SOMMARTID 8.8.7.D.
Anders Öhrwall, 1980



1 My soul, go forth, this sum - mer day, Go forth, be glad, re -
2 For when I hear the thrush - es' song, The lark re - joic - ing
3 But all the beau - ty of the earth, The glo - rious sum - mer,



joice and say: I thank God for these pleas - ures. See,
all day long High o - ver hills and moun - tains, Then
songs of mirth, Are but a glimpse of heav - en. What



all a - round the earth is new, God has a - dorned the
I can - not re - strain my voice, I will sing prais - es
God will show to you one day Eye has not seen, nor



world for you With won - der - ful green treas - ures.
and re - joice; My thanks will flow like foun - tains.
tongue can say What won - ders we'll be giv - en.

We are so glad you joined us for worship today!

Please remain in the meeting if you would like to check in over Zoom Coffee Hour.

News to Note

Covid 19- Task Team recommends move to Phase Two

The First UCC Covid Phased plan is based on several principles that guide our decision making. The first is that no in-person gathering is completely safe. Second, we know that church gatherings have been shown to spread the disease and that singing and reading aloud are vectors to spread the virus. We also know that outside gatherings are safer than indoor gatherings, yet the recommended number of people in any given environment is always an estimate. Finally, we know that masks, adequate ventilation, and distance can help prevent the spread of coronavirus.

We are cautiously moving to the next phase in our plan at this point, though we do so with the understanding that the local situation may require us to move back to phase one. Below is the full description of Phase Two – including the criteria that are necessary to stay in this phase, the specific expectations, and a covenant to guide our interactions with each other. Groups and committees interested in using church space for gatherings may do so following the expectations outlined here. To schedule a gathering in the next two weeks, contact [Pastor Wendy](#) or [Pastor Lauren](#). After July 28, if we are still in Phase Two, you may contact Office Manager [Gladys Ehn](#) for scheduling.

You can find Gating Criteria and a Covid-19 Covenant on our website [here](#).

Racial Justice Work in Northfield

There are weekly opportunities to join Northfield residents giving voice to racial justice matters in our nation. The first is a weekly protest on the Fifth Street Bridge/Ames Park on Mondays from 5:15 – 6:15 p.m. You can find more information about this gathering [here](#).

The second weekly gathering is a project organized by Carleton Professor Cecilia Cornejo Sotelo. Interventions are planned to write out the names of people of color killed by police violence. The group has a special call out for portrait artists to add to the litany of names they chalk on the sidewalks of Bridge Square. You can see a video of the Intervention [here](#) or message Professor Cornejo about the next event [here](#).

Book Group Starting on How to be an Anti-Racist

Sarah Carlsen and Carrie Menk will provide a safe container, via Zoom, in which to practice honest self-reflection and humility about our ability to practice antiracism in our lives. The group will be an offering of three 90-minute sessions, and likely additional sessions for people who are wanting to move to action.

The book group will begin with *How to Be an Antiracist*, by Ibram X. Kendi. People are invited to read the entirety of the book prior to our first session.

Two different first sessions are scheduled for July 20 OR August 12 from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. Books will be available at Content Bookstore in town soon. Please contact Sarah Carlsen, scarlsen11@gmail.com or Carrie Menk, cshigin@yahoo.com to sign up or for more information.

Healing Racialized Trauma Book Group Starting

Would you like to be part of an "Abolitionist Culture" to end racism? If so, we each need to start with our own. Resmaa Menakem is an African American trauma therapist from Minneapolis who published a powerful book, *My Grandmother's Hands, Racialized Trauma and the Pathway to Mending our Hearts and Bodies*. We will meet for 75 minutes, weekly for **8** weeks, on Zoom, starting at 9:00 a.m. Sunday morning July 26. If you are interested in being part of this group, please email Dorothea Hrossowyc at hrossowyc@gmail.com.

ISAIAH on Absentee Ballots

Writing to legislators is one way to champion the value of loving your neighbor as yourself, and thus equity and care for all. Voting is another way. Absentee ballots are the safest way (for you and for election judges) in our COVID 19 world to vote. You can request absentee ballots for both the August primary and November general elections at the Secretary of State's website: <https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/other-ways-to-vote/vote-early-by-mail/>.

If you would like to be part of local and regional Zoom meetings (and aren't already on the Isaiah email lists), please contact Carolyn Fure-Slocum at c.fureslocum@gmail.com, Leota Goodney at leotagoodney@hotmail.com or Matt Rohn at rohn@stolaf.edu

Quarter 2 Giving Statements

Second quarter giving statements have been emailed, which show contributions from January 1-June 30, 2020. For households that do not have an email address on file with the church, a paper statement has been mailed. Please check your statement carefully and report any questions or concerns to the church office. Thank you for your ongoing generous support of First UCC!

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.

Giving to the Church

While we are worshiping 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.