

**First United Church of Christ  
An Open and Affirming  
Just Peace Congregation  
July 5, 2020, 10:30 a.m.**

**Prelude** *Fantasia on the hymn "Holy, Holy, Holy"* Piet Post

**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** Wild Goose Worship Group

One: Thanks be to you, O God, that we have risen this day

**Many: To the rising of this life itself.**

One: Be the purpose of God between us and each purpose,

**Many: The hand of God between us and each hand.**

One: The pain of Christ between us and each pain,

**Many: The love of Christ between us and each love.**

One: O God, who brought us to the bright light of this new day

**Many: Bring us to the everlasting light of your realm.**

**Opening Hymn** *Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above* verses 1, 2, 4  
(next page)

# 859 Sing Praise to God

MIT FREUDEN ZART 87 87 887

1. Sing praise to God who reigns a - bove, The God of all cre -  
 2. The an - gel host, O King of kings, Your praise for - ev - er  
 3. What God's al - might - y pow'r has made With gra - cious mer - cy  
 4. Then all my glad - some way a - long I sing a - loud your

1. a - tion, The God of pow'r, the God of love, The God of our  
 2. tell - ing, In earth and sky all liv - ing things Be - neath your shad -  
 3. keep - ing, By morn - ing glow or eve - ning shade God's watch - ful eye  
 4. prais - es, That all may hear the grate - ful song My voice un - wea -

1. sal - va - tion; With heal - ing balm my soul is filled, And  
 2. ow dwell - ing, A - dore the wis - dom which could span, And  
 3. ne'er sleep - ing: With - in the reign of end - less might, Lo,  
 4. ried rais - es: Be joy - ful in the Lord, my heart: Both

1. ev - 'ry faith - less mur - mur stilled: To God all praise and glo - ry!  
 2. pow'r which formed cre - a - tion's plan: To God all praise and glo - ry!  
 3. all is just and all is right: To God all praise and glo - ry!  
 4. soul and bod - y, bear your part: To God all praise and glo - ry!

Ps 95:1-7  
 Johann J. Schütz, 1640-1690, alt.  
 Tr. by Frances E. Cox, 1812-1897, alt.

Bohemian Brethren's Kirchengesang, Ivančice, 1566  
 Harm. The English Hymnal, London, 1906

## 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 Cor 1:1-11

Ed Langerak

**Sermon**

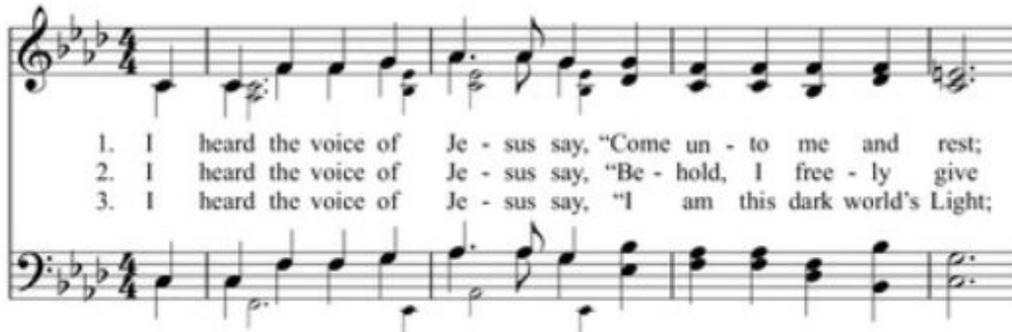
Rev. Wendy Vander Hart

**Hymn**

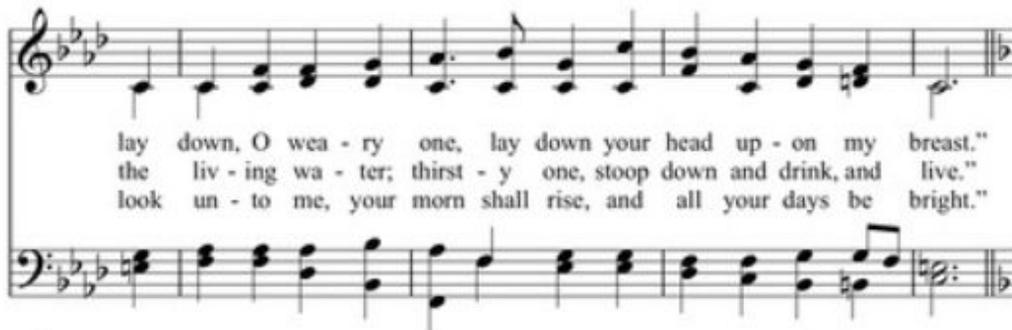
*I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say*  
(next page)

# I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

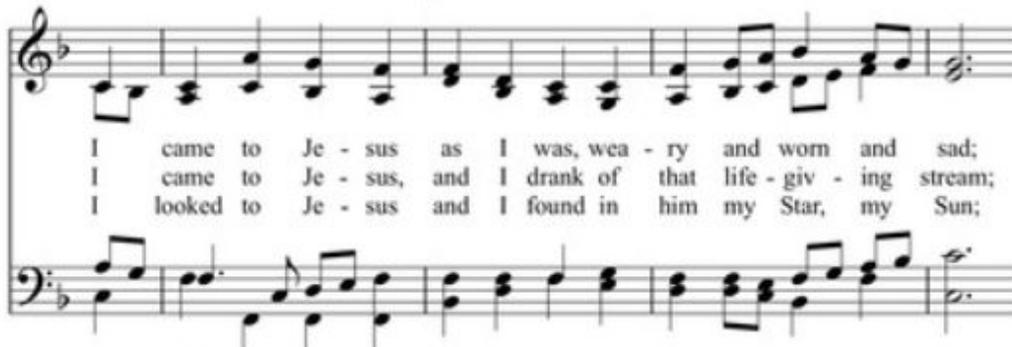
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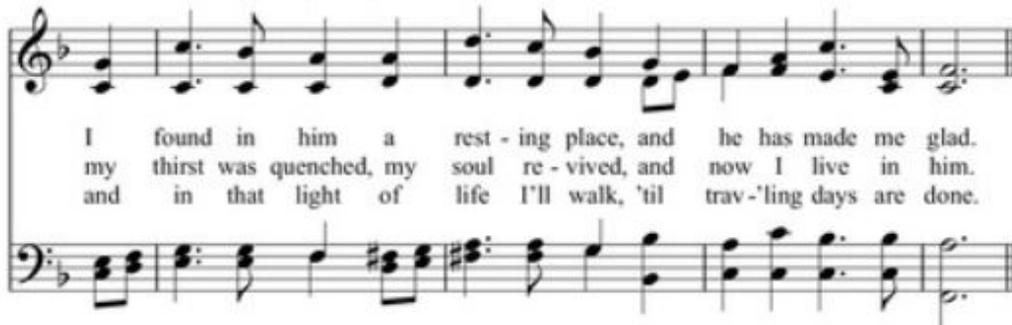
1. I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and rest;  
2. I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give  
3. I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's Light;



lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down your head up - on my breast."  
the liv - ing wa - ter; thirst - y one, stoop down and drink, and live."  
look un - to me, your morn shall rise, and all your days be bright."



I came to Je - sus as I was, wea - ry and worn and sad;  
I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream;  
I looked to Je - sus and I found in him my Star, my Sun;



I found in him a rest - ing place, and he has made me glad.  
my thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, and now I live in him.  
and in that light of life I'll walk, 'til trav - 'ling days are done.

Horatius Bonar, 1846  
Alt. 1990; mod.

VOX DILECTI C.M.D.  
John Bacchus Dykes, 1868

## 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

*With Tender Joy*

Ernst Pepping (1901-1981)

### Prayer of Thanks

**O God, you are our light and consolation. May these gifts offered and dedicated, shed light and spread your encouragement across the land. Amen.**

### Hymn of Sending

*My Soul Go Forth*  
(next page)

## 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**

### **Transition and Search Teams Elected**

At a well-attended congregational meeting on June 28, the Transition and Search Teams were elected. These Teams will drive the process for calling a new Senior Pastor. The Transition Team has set a start date of July 8 and will get acquainted with one another, map out process, and meet with MN UCC Conference staff for training. In an upcoming worship service, we will bless them for this ministry. Along the way the congregation will be engaged in the work. You can see the list of those who were elected [here](#). Please add these Teams to your prayers for their service on behalf of the whole.

### **Communications Team Formed**

As First UCC has adapted to the pandemic and relied more on technology for its ministry, a Communications Team has been formed. With a charge to look at the overall communication needs of First UCC a team of Ben Gottfried, Carl Henry and Stuart Sexton working with Pastor Wendy has come together. The Team will assess the website, potential livestream worship needs, social media presence and unifying internal tools. Stay tuned for updates along the way.

### **First UCC Images in Worship**

First UCC members Patsy Dew and Hans Muessig have blessed our Zoom worship with a great gift. With an artistic eye, they have captured our beloved church building spaces in beautiful photographs. The images debuted at Arthur Campbell's funeral on Zoom as well as our Sunday Zoom worship on June 28. Watch for future appearances in Zoom worship. We are grateful for their craft and generosity of effort.

### **The Fighting Apostles**

With threatening skies looming, the Fighting Apostles debuted a new season at Babcock Park on Sunday, June 28. Taking on a tough team from Emmaus Baptist Church the Apostles left a lot of room for improvement for the rest of the season. Blessedly the skies opened up, lightning flashed and the thunder clouds roared, so the Apostles conceded the game in the middle of the fifth inning. The score of 13-0 does not represent the heart the team showed and the hope that remains for future games. You can find the schedule on the church calendar – fans are most welcome!

### **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. In order to maintain compassionate distancing and yet offer some venue for connection, you can find the Pastors on these days and in these locations. You may either drop-in or

send an email in advance that you plan to show up. Because there may be more than one person at a time, we hope community bonds will be built. For the outdoor locations, the rain plan will be meeting on Zoom instead. Dates range from June 30 - August 28.

**Pastor Wendy beginning June 30:**

- Tuesdays from 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. at Bridge Square picnic tables
- Thursdays from 4:30 – 6:00 p.m. until August 27 on Zoom

Wendy Vander Hart is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Drop-in Office Hours with Pastor Wendy

Time: July 2, 2020 04:30 PM - 6:00 PM Central Time

Every week on Thursday, until Aug 27, 2020

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/97669397249>

Meeting ID: 976 6939 7249

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

**Pastor Lauren beginning July 6:**

- Mondays from 1:00 - 3:00 pm on Zoom
- Wednesdays from 1:00 - 3:00 pm at Bridge Square picnic tables

Lauren Baske Davis is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Drop-In Office Hours - Pastor Lauren

Time: Jul 6, 2020 01:00 PM - 3:00 PM Central Time

Every week on Monday until Aug 31, 2020

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/95172199066?pwd=eS8xekowL3QwK2xJeDlFelp1VG9wdz09>

Meeting ID: 951 7219 9066

Password: 308429

**Staff Vacations**

Chris Brunelle, Senior Choir director- June 27 - July 12

Rev. Lauren Baske Davis, Minister of Congregational Life - June 28 - July 5

Gladys Ehn, Office Manager - July 21 - August 4

Rev. Wendy Vander Hart, Interim Senior Minister - August 3 - 10

Andrea Pegram, Finance Manager- August 8 - 15

## **ISAIAH**

ISAIAH this week quoted Galatians 6:9: "And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up." State government will return in a couple of weeks for at least one more special session and elections loom. Contact legislators to pass bills under consideration but not completed in the regular session or the most recent special session for racial justice as requested by Minnesota's People of Color and Indigenous (POCI) Caucus, healthcare for all, meeting housing needs in the pandemic, and other matters that may be on your heart in building a beloved community.

## **Reunir Project Update**

For those in our congregation who committed to remembering the children held in camps on the border, news is that a US District judge in Los Angeles has ruled for the imminent release by July 17 of children in 3 of the country's family detention centers. Plaintiffs in a long running case showed that there is only spotty compliance of CDC guidelines in the camps and that the Covid virus is "on fire". From Peter Schey, counsel for the class of detained children, many parents "...of detained children would prefer to see their child released to relatives here rather than being deported...to countries where children are routinely kidnapped, beaten and killed." Organizers request that we call our representatives to demand that they release all families before it is too late, reminding them that the inhumanity and trauma that is family separation, though hard to believe is happening in our country like this, must end now. Please call Angie Craig, Tina Smith, and Amy Klobucher. ~ Dorothea Hrossowyc

## **Spotlight on Solidarity Prayer at 7 pm**

Trying to navigate the difficulties of connection and care during the pandemic has been tricky for most of us, especially for our friends and loved ones in isolation. The idea came from distance healing practice which can be described in many ways, but generally the idea of holding good intention for another makes us feel good. When done with mindful intention, with spiritual depth and with a visual image of the recipient, the act only intensifies in its benefit. Members who know they are being held in prayer at a given time can mindfully receive these prayers of solidarity with hope in our hearts together. As our Zoom services evolved, it was great to actually have a picture of some of our congregants, to see them in their homes and to have an image to go with our prayers each evening. Even apart, we are still all in this together. ~ Carrie Menk

## **Helping the CAC**

Due to extra anticipated needs this summer, the Community Action Center (CAC) Food Shelf could use any financial help you can offer in both food shelf and housing assistance needs. Keeping families who are already challenged with food insecurity in their homes is a great challenge, especially in this time of pandemic and financial uncertainty. If you are able to donate to the CAC for food or housing assistance, it would be greatly appreciated in this time. You can donate directly through their website, [here](#).

## **Scam Emails**

Many clergy have reported their names being used to gain monies from parishioners in a scam around gift cards. Pastors Lauren and Wendy will never send you an email or text asking you to contribute money to buy gift cards. Please be vigilant in checking email addresses and refrain from clicking on links should you receive an email making such requests.

### **Giving to the Church**

In an effort to care for those who are most at-risk in our community, 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 [electronic giving authorization form](#) and mailing it to Finance Manager Andrea Pegram at church. Gifts may be mailed to First UCC, 300 Union Street. 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, child care, crisis help or weekly check-ins. We can connect you with congregational support. You can also continue to check in with the pastor. 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.