

First United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming, Just Peace Congregation
April 25, 2021, 10:30 a.m.

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

Prelude *Beautiful Savior* Charles Ore (1936-)

Testimony and Welcome Bob Gregory-Bjorklund

Announcements and Lighting of the Candle

Gathering Music *The Fountain of Life* Marty Haugen (2002)

Love is flowing from the fountain of life.
Peace is pouring from the fountain of life.
Hope is springing from the fountain of life.

Call to Worship Adapted from Carol Penner

One: God of Resurrections, we praise your name.

By your grace, raise us to new life

Many: that our ears may receive your word.

One: Raise us to new life

Many: that our eyes may perceive your presence.

One: Raise us to new life

Many: that our arms may embrace the community.

One: Raise us to new life

Many: that our minds may experience the beauty of truth.

One: Raise us to new life

Many: that our bodies may witness the arc of justice.

One: Raise us to new life

Many: that our hearts may feel the joy of living. Amen.

Opening Hymn *Christ Be Beside Me* Bunessan

**Christ be beside me,
Christ be before me,
Christ be behind me,
King of my heart.**

**Christ be within me,
Christ be below me,
Christ be above me,
Never to part.**

Christ on my right hand,
Christ on my left hand,
Christ all around me,
Shield in the strife.

Christ in my sleeping,
Christ in my sitting,
Christ in my rising,
Light of my life.

Christ be in all hearts
Thinking about me,
Christ be in all tongues
Telling of me.

Christ be the vision
In eyes that see me,
In ears that hear me,
Christ ever be.

Time With Children

God's word is for all God's children; come gather, come gather.
You're never too old for stories; come listen, come listen.

Scripture

Acts 9:36-42

Holly Fischer

Sermon

Pastor Lauren Baske Davis

Prayer Hymn

Breath of God
(see page 3)

Patterns

Sung Call to Prayer

Hallelujah, hallelujah. Hallelujah, hallelujah. Hallelujah, hallelujah.

The Prayers

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

Pastoral Prayer

Silent Prayers and Reflection

Sung Response

Hallelujah, hallelujah. Hallelujah, hallelujah. Hallelujah, hallelujah.

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.

BREATH OF GOD, BREATH OF PEACE

Adam M. L. Tice

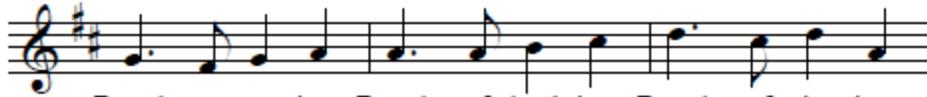
PATTERNS
Sally Ann Morris



1. Breath of God, Breath of peace, Breath of love,
2. Word of God, Word of peace, Word of love,
3. Voice of God, Voice of peace, Voice of love,



Breath of life, Breath of jus - tice, Breath of pas - sion,
Word of life, Word of jus - tice, Word of pas - sion,
Voice of life, Voice of jus - tice, Voice of pas - sion,



Breath cre - at - ing, Breath of heal - ing, Breath of sing - ing,
Word cre - at - ing, Word of heal - ing, Word of sing - ing,
Voice cre - at - ing, Voice of heal - ing, Voice of sing - ing,



Breath of pray - ing, Come up - on us, come re -
Word of pray - ing, Come up - on us, come re -
Voice of pray - ing, Come up - on us, come re -



store us, come in - spire us, Breath of God.
store us, come in - spire us, Word of God.
store us, come in - spire us, Voice of God.

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Offertory

Awake, Awake, to Love and Work

arr. Donald Oglesby

Awake, awake to love and work. The lark is in the sky,
The fields are wet with diamond dew, the worlds awake to cry
Their blessings on the Lord of life, as he goes meekly by.

Come let thy voice be one with theirs. Shout with their shout of praise.
See how the giant sun soars up, great Lord of years and days.
So let the love of Jesus come and set thy soul ablaze.

To give and give and give again what God hath given thee,
To spend thyself nor count the cost, to serve right gloriously
The God who made all worlds that are and all that are to be.

Prayer of Thanks

God of Wonders, with resurrection entwined in our hearts, we joyfully present our gifts to you,
a tangible tapestry of thanksgiving, a weaving of hope for your kin-dom come. Amen.

Hymn of Sending

My Shepherd, You Supply My Need

Resignation

My Shepherd, you supply my need;
Most holy is your name.
In pastures fresh you make me feed
Beside the living stream.
You bring my wandering spirit back
When I forsake your ways
And lead me, for your mercy's sake,
In paths of truth and grace.

When I walk through the shades of death,
Your presence is my stay;
One word of your supporting breath
Drives all my fears away.
Your hand, in sight of all my foes,
Does still my table spread;
My cup with blessings overflows,
Your oil anoints my head.

The sure provisions of my God
Attend me all my days;
O may your house be my abode
And all my work be praise.
Here would I find a settled rest,
While others go and come;
No more a stranger or a guest
But like a child at home.

Benediction

Postlude

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us
Kay Sahlin, flute; Andrea Een, violin

Dan Kallman (1956-)

We are so glad you joined us for worship today!
Following worship today, join us on Zoom for breakout rooms or for a learning opportunity and
presentation on regenerative agriculture with Regi Haslett-Marroquin.

News to Note

Welcome to worship at First UCC! Are you visiting us today? We invite you to fill out our [virtual visitor card](#). Other questions about our community? Please contact Pastor Wendy (pastorwendy@firstucc.org) or Pastor Lauren (pastorlauren@firstucc.org).

New Member Orientation

Join us! First UCC will welcome new members on Sunday, May 16, during Sunday worship on Zoom. A New Member Orientation session will be held via Zoom after the worship next Sunday, May 2, at 11:45 a.m. Interested in attending orientation? Contact Jean Haslett, Membership Team Chair, hasletts66@yahoo.com or 507-650-0753.

Pentecost Video Project

Would you like to be part of our Pentecost Celebration on Sunday, May 23? Whether we are able to launch hybrid worship that day or not, we want to create a shared experience that ties us together. We are looking for folks willing to video themselves "sharing the Spirit," similar to the passing of the light we did for Christmas Eve. If you are game or want to learn more, please [sign up here](#). The deadline for submission of videos will be May 17.

April 25 Learning Opportunity: Regi Haslett-Marroquin on Regenerative Agriculture

Following worship today, we welcome Reginaldo (Regi) Haslett-Marroquin, who will present on indigenous agriculture, the ancestral ways of living within nature's cycles. Regi will also announce Salvatierra Farm, a 75-acre agroforestry-based regenerative poultry farm production just outside of Northfield. To join Regi's presentation April 25, simply stay on Zoom after worship has ended.

Confirmation Sunday

Join us next Sunday, May 2, as we celebrate the affirmation of baptism of young people in our community! The service of confirmation will be pre-recorded and shared during worship next week.

ISAIAH

As people of faith we are called to create a just society where everyone can thrive. The Minnesota House is considering a series of bills on police accountability, as is the U.S. Senate with the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act, passed by the U.S. House. A just society also includes affordable childcare, paid family medical leave, and access to housing, which are all part of the MN state budget negotiations. Call or email to your MN representative and MN Senator in support of a budget for all people, and contact Senate leaders at the state and federal levels to advocate for police accountability. Questions about legislation or voicing your views? Email isaiah@firstucc.org.

Giving to the Church

Thank you for your continued giving during this time of pandemic! First UCC's ministry continues thanks to your generosity. 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.

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).

For additional news and announcements, please visit firstucc.org/contact-us/the-chronicle/ to subscribe to weekly editions of The Chronicle, First UCC's e-news, and to view recent issues.

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First United Church of Christ Leadership and Staff

Ministers—all the people

Moderator—Sam Steinberg

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

Director of Communications & Operations—Green Bouzard