

**First United Church of Christ**  
**An Open and Affirming, Just Peace Congregation**  
**May 16, 2021, 10:30 a.m.**

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

**Prelude** *Interlude: Andante* Jacques Ibert (1890-1962)  
Kay Sahlin, flute; Andrea Een, violin

**Testimony and Welcome** Dan Sullivan

**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**

One: There are moments of joy and of pain,  
and many in between.  
So that we do not lose heart,  
in every moment God invites us:

**Many: to take another look**

One: to be guided

**Many: to be sustained**

One: to be supported

**Many: to be welcomed**

One: and to keep going.

**Many: Praises be to the one who gives us life!**

**Opening Hymn** *Ye Holy Angels Bright* Darwall's 148th

**Ye holy angels bright who wait at God's right hand,  
Or through the realms of light fly at your Lord's command,  
Assist our song,  
For else the theme too high doth seem for mortal tongue.**

**Ye blessed souls at rest who ran this earthly race,  
And now, from sin released, behold the Savior's face,  
God's praises sound,  
As in his sight with sweet delight ye do abound.**

**My soul, bear thou thy part, triumph in God above,  
And with a well-tuned heart sing thou the songs of love.  
Let all thy days  
Till life shall end, whate'er God send, be filled with praise.**

### **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 1:1-11 Marie Gery

**Sermon** Rev. Lauren Baske Davis

**Prayer Hymn** *The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns* Materna

**The King shall come when morning dawns  
And light triumphant breaks,  
When beauty gilds the eastern hills  
And life to joy awakes.  
O brighter than the glorious morn  
Shall this fair morning be,  
When Christ our King in beauty comes  
And we his face shall see.**

**The King shall come when morning dawns  
And earth's dark night is past;  
O haste the rising of that morn,  
The day that e'er shall last,  
And let the endless bliss begin,  
By weary saints foretold,  
When right shall triumph over wrong,  
And truth shall be extolled.**

### **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.**

**Offertory**

*Keep Your Eyes on the Prize*

Spiritual

Paul and Silas, bound in jail, had no money for to go their bail.  
Keep your eyes on the prize, hold on.  
Paul and Silas began to shout; the jail door opened and they walked on out.  
Keep your eyes on the prize, hold on.  
Hold on, hold on. Keep your eyes on the prize, hold on.

The only thing that we did was wrong: stayed in the wilderness a day too long.  
Keep your eyes on the prize, hold on.  
But the one thing we did right was the day that we started to fight.  
Keep your eyes on the prize, hold on.  
Hold on, hold on. Keep your eyes on the prize, hold on.

**Prayer of Thanks**

**Loving God, you hearten us with grace and compassion. Your gifts overflow, and we give abundantly, in thanks and trust. May your hopes, your justice, your peace, your vision be in our hearts and in the world you love so much. Amen.**

**Hymn of Sending**

*As a Fire Is Meant for Burning*  
(see page 4)

Pleading Savior

**Benediction**

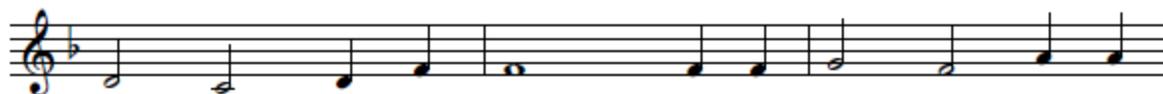
**Postlude**

*Interlude: Allegro*

**We are so glad you joined us for worship today! Please join us following worship for a forum on our transition to hybrid worship. We hope you will stay!**



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



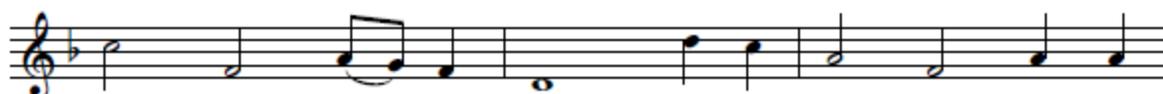
bright and warm-ing flame, So the church is meant for  
pil - grims on the way. We are seek - ers; we are  
sign of life re - newed, So may we be signs of



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.

## 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](mailto:pastorwendy@firstucc.org)) or Pastor Lauren ([pastorlauren@firstucc.org](mailto:pastorlauren@firstucc.org)).

### **TODAY: Forum on Transition to Hybrid Worship**

The First UCC COVID Task Force has decided to initiate a "soft opening" to hybrid worship on May 23. For four Sundays, May 23 - June 13, we will test livestream/Zoom worship with limited in-person attendees in the Sanctuary. This hybrid model will change the experience of both settings. What we had been accustomed to in the Sanctuary before COVID will be different. What we have gotten used to in Zoom will change too. And we will learn and grow together! Join us TODAY for a forum regarding this transition. We hope you will plan to attend and share your thoughts and questions. [Read the Hybrid Worship Information & FAQ on the firstucc.org website](#) and register to attend worship in person.

### **ISAIAH**

The Minnesota legislative session ends May 17. A two-year budget is needed to avoid a June 1 government shutdown. Call or write your state Senator and urge them to endorse budget increases funded by the new fifth tier tax on the very wealthy that the House has passed and the Governor supports. Ask them to pass healthcare and childcare support for all in need, paid family and medical leave, more help for affordable housing, and environmental legislation. [Find who your senator is here.](#) Questions about legislation or voicing your views? Email [isaiah@firstucc.org](mailto: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/](http://firstucc.org/contact-us/the-chronicle/) to subscribe to weekly editions of The Chronicle (First UCC's e-news) and to view recent issues.

Music printed and streamed with permission via OneLicense A-722468

+ + +

**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 Communication & Operations—Green Bouzard