



Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
First United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming, Just Peace Congregation
July 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 *The Church's One Foundation* Calvin Hampton (1938-1984)

Testimony and Welcome Don Barry

Announcements and Lighting of the Candle

Call to Worship Stephen Best

One: In this place

**Many: We open to the creative heartbeat of this morning,
the divine urging which is within, around, and beyond us.**

One: Dispel our stupor.

Many: Energize our bodies.

One: Enthuse our passion.

Many: Center us, so this day is worthy of the name holy.

Opening Hymn *The Church's One Foundation* (v 1, 3, 4) NCH #386 AURELIA

v1 The church's one foundation
is Jesus Christ our Lord;
we are Christ's new creation
by water and the word;
From heaven Christ came and sought us
in love to set us free;
with precious blood Christ bought us
for all eternity

v3 'Mid toil and tribulation,
and tumult of our war,
we wait the consummation
of peace forevermore;
Till with the vision glorious,
our longing eyes are blessed,
and the great church victorious
shall be the church at rest.

v4 Yet we on earth have union
with God, the Three-in-One,
and mystic sweet communion
with those whose rest is won.
O happy ones and holy!
God give us grace that we,
like them, the meek and lowly,
may live eternally.

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

Luke 12: 22-31

Don Barry

Sermon

Elizabeth O'Sullivan

Prayer Hymn

An Echo of the Voice of God

Adam M. L. Tice/Sally Ann Morris

WADA TUNE

The Prayers

We will pray in four parts. First, we will breathe. Second, we will offer prayers for the world, for the people we love, for the concerns we have. Third, we will offer prayers of thanks and gratitude. Finally, we will pray the Prayer of Jesus. In between we will sing. You are invited to share prayers with the congregation by vocalizing in the sanctuary or online using the Zoom chat function.

Sung Response

More Than We Can Ask

(based on Ephesians 3:20)

Refrain: **More than we can ask, more than we can ask, more than we can ask or imagine.**

One: Hear, o hear our prayer. Many: **Hear, o hear our prayer.**

Prayer of Jesus A Womanist version of the prayer that Jesus taught us, adapted by Rev. Yolanda Norton

You are invited to pray the words most meaningful to you, or follow with the version here:

Our Mother, who is in heaven and within us, we call upon your names. Your wisdom come. Your will be done, in all the spaces in which you dwell. Give us each day sustenance and perseverance. Remind us of our limits as we give grace to the limits of others. Separate us from the temptation of empire, and deliver us into community. For you are the dwelling place within us, the empowerment around us, and the celebration among us, now and forever. Amen.

Sung Amen

Offertory

Variation on "The Ash Grove"

David Cherwien (1957-)

Prayer of Thanks

For every blessing received, every gift given, every contribution dedicated to your ministry of love and justice, we give you thanks O God. May all that we consecrate in this moment be pleasing in your sight and beneficial for your people. Amen.

Hymn of Sending

Go My Children, with My Blessing

NCH #82 AR HYD Y NOS

v1 Go my children, with my blessing,
never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you,
you are my own.
In my love's baptismal river
I have made you mine forever,
Go, my children, with my blessing,
you are my own.

v2 Go, my children, fed and nourished,
Never alone;
Grow in love and love by serving,
joyful and free.
Here my Spirit's power filled you,
Here with tender comfort stilled you;
Go, my children, fed and nourished,
joyful and free.

Benediction

Postlude

Prelude in D Major, BWV 134

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

We are so glad you worshiped here today!
Zoom breakout rooms will be available for fellowship after the service.
We hope you will stay!

News to Note

Worship Information

First UCC worships at 10:30 a.m. on Sundays. Recently, First UCC returned to full capacity worship in the sanctuary, with no registration required. Worship is also live streamed each week on Zoom. 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 by visiting firstucc.org and clicking the "Give Now!" button under the "Giving" tab, 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, July 25

6 & 7:10 p.m. Fightin' Apostles Double Header v.s. Randolph Baptist (6) and Methodist (7:10) (Babcock)

Monday, July 26

9 a.m. First UCC Email System Transfer

Tuesday, July 27

3-5 p.m. Pastor Lauren Drop-In Office Hours (Bridge Square)

Wednesday, July 28

12:15 p.m. Northfield Noontime Organ Recital feat. Theo Wee

3-5 p.m. Pastor Wendy Drop-In Office Hours (Bridge Square)

Thursday, July 29

8 a.m. - 2 p.m. Carleton Lighten Up Pop-Up Sale Sorting (Assembly Room)

Friday, July 30

8 a.m. - 2 p.m. Carleton Lighten Up Pop-Up Sale (First UCC Parking Lot)

Church Email Unavailable Monday, July 26; *NEW* Email Addresses for Staff

There was a delay in the email system transfer that had been scheduled for July 19. The transfer has been rescheduled for tomorrow, Monday, July 26. Email will be temporarily unavailable on Monday, July 26. After the email update, there will be different emails at which you may reach First UCC staff. Please use these new email addresses moving forward, updating your email contacts to the following:

Pastor Wendy Vander Hart: seniorminister@firstucc.org

Pastor Lauren Baske Davis: associateminister@firstucc.org

Chris Brunelle, Director of Music: musicdirector@firstucc.org

Theo Wee, Organist: organist@firstucc.org

Bob Gregory-Bjorklund: worshiparts@firstucc.org

Green Bouzard, Director of Communications & Operations: church@firstucc.org (no change)

Mark Fischer, Sexton: sexton@firstucc.org

ISAIAH (Faith-Based Community Organizing)

"Here and now, we can be the beloved community. There is room at the table for everyone" (Carrie Newcomer, "Room at the Table"). Please help us in living this creed! Learn next steps by attending the ISAIAH Northfield Area Summit Tuesday, July 27, 6-8 p.m. in person at a shelter in a park still to be determined. We'll "debrief...celebrate how we've led together, discuss what's emerged from the legislative session and what's left undone, and then equip ourselves for a season of deep listening and local issue work." So that organizers know numbers, [please register online](#). Questions about putting your faith into action through social justice and advocacy? Email isaiah@firstucc.org.

Theo Wee Organ Recital, July 28

Today's Offertory and Postlude are both excerpts from two selections which will be included by Theo in her public concert at First UCC this Wednesday, July 28 at 12:15. No advance registration is required. All are cordially invited to hear First UCC's historic organ showcased as a concert instrument.

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Photo by [Annie Spratt](#) on [Unsplash](#)

First UCC Leadership & 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

Director of Communications & Operations: Green Bouzard

Spirit Voices Director & Arts Coordinator: Bob Gregory-Bjorklund

Sexton: Mark Fischer

Thanks to this Week's Leaders

Ushers: Anne Meyer Ruppel, Sarah Carlsen, Kathy Sandberg,
Nalani McCutcheon, Betsy Barrett

Testimony & Welcome: Don Barry

Reader: Don Barry

Guest Preacher: Elizabeth O'Sullivan

Digital Zoom Host: Carl Henry

Tech Team: Reister Family