



Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
First United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming, Just Peace Congregation
August 8, 2021, 10:30 a.m.

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

Prelude *Music for a Sunday Morning* Robert Powell (b.1932)
I. Moderato

Testimony and Welcome Marie Gery

Announcements and Lighting of the Candle

Call to Worship adapted from Thom Shuman

One: Gentle God,
We have traveled many roads to reach this place.
We arrive from different backgrounds and traditions,
yet we share a seeking faith.

**Many: We are, each of us, unique and precious;
we are members of one body.**

One: We have different dreams and doubts,

Many: yet our hearts beat with hope together.

One: We are graced with different gifts

**Many: so we may learn from one another,
so that we may each contribute,
so that we may live into the world God loves.**

Opening Hymn *Your Voice Can Sing* Adam M.L. Tice
(see page 6) Randall Sensmeier

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 Ephesians 4:1-16 Bob Gregory-Bjorklund

Sermon Rev. Lauren Baske Davis

Prayer Hymn *Blessed Be the Tie that Binds* #393 (Dennis)

v1 Blessed be the tie that binds
our hearts in Christian love;
The sharing of a common life
is like to that above.

v2 Before our God we come
and pour our ardent prayers;
Our fears, our hopes, or aims are one,
our comforts and our cares.

v3 We share each other's woes,
each other's burdens bear,
And often for each other flows
a sympathizing tear.

v4 When we are called to part
it gives us inward pain,
But we shall still be joined in heart,
and hope to meet again.

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)

Richard Bruxvoort-Colligan

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

You are invited to speak 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.

Sung Amen

Offertory

Music for a Sunday Morning
II. Aria

Robert Powell

Prayer of Thanks

God in Community, you are the giver of every good thing. Bless and use these gifts for the work of your realm, your kin-dom come, your love made even more real on earth. Amen.

Hymn of Sending

Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant

#529 (Servant Song)

v1 Won't you let me be your servant,
let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace
to let you be my servant, too.

v2 We are pilgrims on a journey,
we are travelers on the road;
We are here to help each other
Go the mile and bear the load

v3 I will hold the Christ-light for you
in the shadow of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.

v4 I will weep when you are weeping;
when you laugh, I'll laugh with you.
I will share your joy and sorrow
till we've seen this journey through.

v5 When we sing to God in heaven
we shall find such harmony,
Born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony.

v6 Won't you let me be your servant,
let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace
to let you be my servant, too.

Benediction

Postlude

Music for a Sunday Morning
III. Allegro

Robert Powell

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

Tuesday, August 10

10 a.m. First UCC Women's Group (Zoom; Contact WJK@Q.com for login information)

1-2:30 p.m. Staff Meeting

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

5-6:30 p.m. Music Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Wednesday, August 11

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

Sunday, August 15

10:30 a.m. Hybrid Worship

ISAIAH (Faith-Based Community Organizing)

The federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Plan and Senate Reconciliation Bill can do much to help in "fighting for racial and economic justice." Contact your senators and representatives to pass these infrastructure bills.

Urge others to do the same and show up at town meetings in the August recess to press for their passage before September deadlines end the fight for them this legislative year. Questions about putting your faith into action through social justice and advocacy? Email isaiah@firstucc.org.

Music printed and streamed with permission via OneLicense A-722468

Photo by [Tim Mossholder](#) 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: Lois Langerak, Ed Langerak, Linda Larson,

Betsy Barrett, Jeffrey Latterell

Testimony & Welcome: Marie Gery

Reader: Bob Gregory-Bjorklund

Digital Zoom Host: Lisa Sexton

Tech Team: Reister Family

YOUR VOICE CAN SING

Adam M. L. Tice

CARMEN DEI
Randall Sensmeier



1. Your voice can sing a heart - felt
2. Your hands can grow and gath - er
3. Your eyes can read the scrip - ture's
4. With God, our var - ied parts be -



hymn and chant a psalm a - lone.
wheat or tend a fruit - ful vine.
words and see the stor - y's scope.
come one bod - y, joined in praise.



Your voice can sigh a deep la -
Your hands can shape a loaf of
Your eyes can scan the Bi - ble's
With God, we seek the paths of



ment or shape a word - less groan. One
bread and pour a cup of wine. One
breadth to find its words of hope. One
peace and walk in ho - ly ways. And



voice may bear a mel - o - dy, but gath - er
per - son's hands may make a meal, but of - fer
per - son's eyes may see in part, but join to
as we find new har - mo - ny, we join the



two or three, and Christ is in the
guests a place, and Christ is in the
read with friends, and Christ is in the
grow - ing throng, for Christ is in the



midst of us to teach us har - mo - ny.
midst of us to cir - cle us with grace.
midst of us: the liv - ing Word God sends.
midst of us and fills the world with song.