

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

First United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming, Just Peace Congregation
August 15, 2021, 10:30 a.m.

Welcome to worship! Are you visiting us today? We invite you to fill out our virtual visitor card.

Prelude Come Down, O Love Divine Jan Bender (1909-1994)

Testimony and Welcome Jan Mitchell

Announcements and Lighting of the Candle

Call to Worship

One: God loves the world without end, reminding us that we belong to one another.

Many: We gather to live out such love, that we might grow God's beloved community.

One: Christ loved the world compassionately, not with caution, but with extravagance.

Many: We gather to practice such love, that we might reflect Christ's truth and mercy.

One: The Spirit loves the world and nourishes us, moving in us, breathing love into us.

Many: We gather to move with such love for others, keeping company with God.

Opening Hymn Come Forth, O Love Divine NCH #289 (Down Ampney)

v1 Come forth, O Love divine, v2 O let it freely burn, seek now this soul of mine, till earthly passions turn

and visit it with your own ardor glowing; to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;

O Comforter, draw near, And let your glorious light within my heart appear, shine ever on my sight,

and kindle it, your holy flame bestowing and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

v3 And so the yearning strong with which the soul will long, shall far outpass the power of human telling; For none can guess its grace, till love create a place wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.

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 4:25-5:2 Shawn Nuebel

Sermon Rev. Lauren Baske Davis

Prayer Hymn Jesus--The Very Thought to Me (v1-3, 5) NCH #507 (St. Agnes)

v1 Jesus--the very thought to me with sweetness fills my breast; But sweeter far your face to see, and in your presence rest.

v3 O hope of every contrite heart, O joy of all the meek, How kind you are to those apart, how good to those who seek! v2 No voice can sing, no heart can frame, nor can the memory find
A sweeter sound than your blessed name,
Savior of humankind.

v4 Jesus, our joy, our greatest bliss, and you our prize will be; Our glory here and now is this, and through eternity.

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 Prelude on 'Lasst uns erfreuen'

Daniel Kallman (2021)

Prayer of Thanks

adapted from Thom Shuman

Gracious God, you hold nothing back from us, and are generous with all that is yours. As we offer our gifts and lives in this moment, may we become imitators of you. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Hymn of Sending

One Mind, One Heart (see page 6)

Delores Dufner

Benediction

Postlude Prelude in G Major J.S. Bach (185-1750)

We are so glad you worshiped here today!

Zoom breakout rooms will be available for fellowship after the service, and we welcome those of you who attended in person for friendship and conversation on the lawn. 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! <u>Subscribe to The Chronicle, First UCC's</u> <u>weekly e-newsletter</u>, and find First UCC on <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Instagram</u>. Past issues of The Chronicle are available at firstucc.org.

This Week at First UCC

Tuesday, August 17

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

Wednesday, August 18

8-10 a.m. Pastor Wendy Drop-In Office Hours (Bridge Square)

6-7 p.m. Trustees Meeting

Thursday, August 19

10 a.m. Care Team Meeting (Assembly Room)

Sunday, August 22

10:30 a.m. Hybrid Worship

ISAIAH (Faith-Based Community Organizing)

Your efforts have helped move forward the federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Plan and Senate Reconciliation Bill that ISAIAH strongly endorses. Continued work is needed to bring both fully into being. Continue contacting Senators and members of Congress about them, show up at town meetings in the August recess to press for the bills' passage, and most of all urge others to join you in doing these things. Questions about putting your faith into action through social justice and advocacy? Email <u>isaiah@firstucc.org</u>.

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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: Brad Hoff, Scott Richardson, Sarah Carlsen, Elise Eslinger, Jeffrey Latterell

Testimony & Welcome: Jan Mitchell

Reader: Shawn Nuebel
Digital Zoom Host: Carl Henry
Tech Team: Mackenzie Perkins

One Mind, One Heart

