



**Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**First United Church of Christ**  
**An Open and Affirming, Just Peace Congregation**  
**August 22, 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*  
*Beautiful Savior*

Charles Ore (b. 1936)  
David Cherwien (b. 1957)

**Testimony and Welcome**

Crystal Henslin

**Announcements and Lighting of the Candle**

**Call to Worship**

from Worship Words

One: Worship

**Many: High church, low church, in-between church.**

One: A window into wisdom

**Many: A portal into presence.**

One: A receiving, a giving, a sharing.

**Many: Gathering to be fed by the Word,**

One: Gathering to feel the power of community,

**Many: Gathering to free the Spirit.**

**Opening Hymn**

*God of the Sparrow God of the Whale*

#32 (Roeder)

v1 God of the sparrow God of the whale  
God of the swirling stars  
How does the creature say Awe  
How does the creature say Praise

v2 God of the earthquake God of the storm  
God of the trumpet blast  
How does the creature cry Woe  
How does the creature cry Save

v3 God of the rainbow God of the cross  
God of the empty grave  
How does the creature say Grace  
How does the creature say Thanks

v4 God of the hungry God of the sick  
God of the prodigal  
How does the creature say Care  
How does the creature say Life

v5 God of the neighbor God of the foe  
God of the pruning hook  
How does the creature say Love  
How does the creature say Peace

V6 God of the ages God near at hand  
God of the loving heart  
How do your children say Joy  
How do your children say Home

**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 5:15-33 Elizabeth Olson

**Sermon** Rev. Wendy Vander Hart

**Prayer Hymn** *O Savior, Let Me Walk With You* #503 (Maryton)

v1 O Savior, let me walk with you  
in earthly paths of service true;  
Tell me your secret, help me bear  
the strain of the toil, the fret of care.

v2 Help me the slow of heart to move  
by some clear winning word of love.  
Teach me the wayward feet to stay,  
and guide them in the homeward way.

v3 Teach me your patience; let me be  
in closer, dearer company,  
In work that keeps faith sweet and strong,  
in trust that triumphs over wrong.

v4 In hope that sends a shining ray  
far down the future's broadening way,  
In peace that only you can give,  
with you, O Savior, let me live.

### **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* Richard Bruxvoort Colligan  
(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**

*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** "O Rest in the Lord" from *Elijah* Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

## Prayer of Thanks

**Holy One, in your presence we rejoice. With your people, we join. For the world you so love, we commit. Bless all we give and share to spread your love far and wide. Amen.**

## Hymn of Sending

*Dear God, Embracing Humankind* (v1, 4, 5)

#502 (Rest)

v1 Dear God, embracing humankind,  
forgive our foolish ways;  
Reclothe us in our rightful mind,  
in purer lives your service find,  
in deeper reverence, praise.

v4 Drop your still dews of quietness,  
till all our strivings cease;  
Take from our souls the strain and stress,  
and let our ordered lives confess  
the beauty of your peace.

v5 Breathe through the pulses of desire  
your coolness and your balm;  
Let sense be numb, let flesh retire;  
Speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire,  
O still, small voice of calm.

## Benediction

## Postlude

*Sonata No. 3, Op. 65: Con moto maestoso*

Mendelssohn

**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](http://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](http://firstucc.org).

### This Week at First UCC

Monday, August 23

Pastor Lauren on vacation August 23-26

6 p.m. Trustees Meeting on Zoom

Tuesday, August 24

7 p.m. Church Council Meeting

Wednesday, August 25

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

Friday, August 27

12 p.m. Staff Meeting

Sunday, August 29

10:30 a.m. Hybrid Worship; Celebration of Pastor Wendy

**ISAIAH (Faith-Based Community Organizing)**

ISAIAH is encouraging member communities to protect our democracy by urging our U.S. Senate leaders to pass the For the People Act that Congress passed in March. Please contact them and urge others to do the same. The For the People Act provides voter protections to everyone in every state. Please help make sure that everyone's voice can be heard. Questions about putting your faith into action through social justice and advocacy? Email [isaiah@firstucc.org](mailto:isaiah@firstucc.org).

Beautiful Savior, David Cherwien © 1983, A.M.S.I. All rights reserved.

Beautiful Savior, Charles Ore © 1982, Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved.

Hymns from The New Century Hymnal © 1995, The Pilgrim Press.

Music reprinted and streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-722468. All rights reserved.

Photo by [Oliver Cole](#) 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, Crystal Henslin, Betsy Barrett,

Linda Larson, Jeffrey Latterell

**Testimony & Welcome:** Crystal Henslin

**Cantor:** Donna McMillan

**Reader:** Elizabeth Olson

**Digital Zoom Host:** Carl Henry

**Tech Team:** Annika Reister