



Ascension Sunday

First United Church of Christ

**An Open and Affirming, Just Peace,
Immigrant Welcoming Congregation**

May 29, 2022

10:30 a.m.

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

Prelude *Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme* J. S. Bach (1685-1750)
Sam Zimmerman, organist

Welcome and Announcements

Gathering Music *Where Two or Three Are Gathered* Bruce Harding (2002)

Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there, I am there.

Call to Worship

One: Let us rejoice, for morning has dawned.

ALL: A new day has been born, and we are newly alive to enjoy it.

One: The earth, with all its beauty, tells us of God's creative power.

ALL: God's people, in all our diversity, demonstrate God's creative love.

One: Let us look around to see the beauty in this day.

ALL: Let us look around to see the beauty in one another.

Opening Hymn *Let the Whole Creation Cry* Salzburg
(see page 7)

Time With Children

**Let the children come unto me, for theirs is the realm of God.
All who believe must become like a child; theirs is the realm of God.**

Statement of Commitment: Racial Justice Covenant (proposed, to be voted on in June)

As members of the First United Church of Christ of Northfield, we covenant with God and each other to engage in the work of racial justice to unmask, dismantle, and eradicate racism from our society. We make this commitment knowing we are fallible people in a fractured world. Our actions will include building an anti-racist community through confronting our own racism, owning our racist history, and repenting of our role in systemic racism; fostering existing and new relationships to work toward racial equity; committing resources to racial justice; and listening to, trusting, and valuing the experiences of the people most impacted by racism. Our commitment to this covenant rests on our belief that God envisions a world in which people are treated with equality and dignity.

Scripture Luke 24:44–53 Fred Rogers

Sermon Rev. Cindy Maddox

Prayer Hymn *My God, Where Shall I Go* Adam Tice
(choir sings verse 1; join in on verses 2 and 3; see page 8) Sally Ann Morris

The Prayers

We will begin prayers in song, then a minister will pray, and there will be time for silent prayer. Then we will sing again. All joining worship on Zoom are invited to share prayers with the congregation by using the chat function at any point during this time.

Sung Response



One: All:

We do not know how to pray as we ought, but the spir-it of

God in - ter - cedes for us with sighs too deep for words.

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.

Offertory

Hilf, Gott, dass mirs Gelingt
Jancyn Appel, organist

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Prayer of Thanks

God has abundantly blessed us and called us to be a community that blesses others through the sharing of our love, our talents, and our material possessions. Let us rejoice now in what we have been given and in what is ours to give. Amen.

Recognition of Volunteers and Leaders

Hymn of Sending

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

#42 (Azmon)

O for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Redeemer's praise,
The glories ever echoing
the triumphs of God's grace!

Jesus! the name that calms our fears,
that bids our sorrows cease
Is music in the sinner's ears,
is life, and health, and peace!

My gracious Savior and my God,
assist me to proclaim,
To spread through all the earth abroad
the honors of your name.

Glory to God, and love and praise
be ever, ever given
By all the saints in every age,
the church in earth and heaven.

Benediction

Postlude

Fanfare

Jacques Lemmens (1823-1881)

Colette Pollard, organist

We are so glad you worshiped here today! You're invited to stay on Zoom for friendship and conversation.

News to Note

Worship Information

First UCC worships at 10:30 a.m. in person on Sundays. Worship is also live streamed each week on Zoom and YouTube. 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 now.](#) 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, May 29

10:30 a.m. Worship

Monday, May 30

Memorial Day: Church Office Closed

Tuesday, May 31

1 – 2:30 p.m. Staff Meeting (Assembly Room)

7:30 p.m. Church Council (Assembly Room)

Wednesday, June 1

6 p.m. Facilities Meeting (Assembly Room)

6:30 p.m. The Great Escape (Big Room)

7 – 8:15 p.m. Senior Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Thursday, June 2

2 p.m. Book Group (Assembly Room)

Sunday, June 5

10:30 a.m. Worship; New Member Sunday

11:30 a.m. Coffee Hour

Call for Congregational Meeting June 19

There will be a special congregational meeting on Sunday, June 19, following worship. The purpose of the meeting is to vote on accepting First UCC's racial justice covenant, and to approve a revised version of the Open and Affirming covenant. Members, please join us to add your voice and vote to these important topics.

Masks Required

The COVID Task Force has moved to require that everyone mask while in the church building. While wearing a mask, we protect both ourselves and those around us. The most effective mask is a KN95 or N95; if you do not have these, the next best option is to double mask. If you wear a single mask, a surgical mask is more effective than cloth. There are surgical masks available at the church entrances.

Hearing Assistance Available

Hearing assistance is available for those who desire it. Small radio transmitter packs that connect with the sound system and have ear buds can be found in a basket on the table at the back of the sanctuary. Please return the pack to the basket after worship.

Coffee Hour Volunteers Needed

First UCC is seeking volunteer hosts for Coffee Hour for the summer months! Volunteering is easy; simply pick up First UCC's order at Brick Oven Bakery on the Sunday morning you are hosting, make coffee in the First UCC kitchen, and clean up afterward! If you're a baker and want to supplement with your own treats, you are welcome to. Instructions are available for those willing to help but who haven't hosted coffee hour in the past. The dates for Coffee Hour this summer are June 5 and 19, July 10 and 24, and August 7 and 21. [Sign up here](#), and also find the link to sign up at firstucc.org. Please see the 5/26/22 Chronicle for more an FAQ about hosting Coffee Hour. Questions or concerns? Please contact Sue Evans at susancevans@charter.net or Annie Kramer at anniekramer@charter.net.

New Member Sunday June 5

New Member Sunday is next week, Sunday, June 5. Join us as we welcome new members to First UCC!

ISAIAH (Faith Based Community Organizing)

Take advantage of ISAIAH's revised Race Class Narrative Action Training. The training is "equal parts empirical message testing, organizing strategy, and creative communications approach fused together to motivate and mobilize people to reject faux populism, fear- and dog whistle-based messaging, and embrace progressive solutions." [Register for the training, which takes place online June 15, from 6–7:30 pm.](#)

Say Their Names Intervention #35, May 29, 12:15 p.m.

Say Their Names Intervention #35 will gather today, Sunday, May 29 at 12:15 p.m. in Bridge Square. This month, the group will remember George Floyd two years after his murder and mourn the lives lost in the recent white supremacist shooting in Buffalo. They will also celebrate the influential work of psychologist Dr. Mamie Phipps Clark in honor of national mental health awareness month.

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Joanna Vaughan. Ascension, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

<https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=56521> [retrieved May 19, 2022]. Original source:

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My God, Where Shall We Go, Words by Adam M.L. Tice, Tune by Sally Ann Morris © 2015 GIA Publishing. All rights reserved.

First UCC Leadership & Staff



Ministers: All the people

Moderator: Deb Gottfried

Senior Minister: Rev. Cindy Maddox

Associate Minister: Rev. 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

AV Technician: Brynn Artley

Sexton: Mark Fischer

Thanks to this Week's Leaders



Ushers: Lois Langerak, Ed Langerak, Sue Evans, Annie Kramer, Gina Washburn

Reader: Fred Rogers

Digital Zoom Host: Beth Kallestad

Tech Team: Annika Reister

Worship Arts: Linda Gagnon

LET THE WHOLE CREATION CRY

Based on Psalm 148

Stopford A. Brooke, 1832-1916, alt.

"Christian Hymns," 1881

SALZBURG 7.7.7.7.D.

Melody by Jakob Hintze, 1678

Harm. by J. S. Bach, 1685-1750



1 Let the whole cre - a - tion cry, "Glo - ry to the Lord on high."
2 Scho-lars' writ-ings, truth se-cured, Proph-ets burn - ing with the word,
3 Men and wom-en, young and old, Raise the an - them man - i - fold;



Heav'n and earth, your an - thems bring: "Praise to God, to whom we sing."
Those to whom the arts be-long, Add their voic - es to the song.
And let chil-dren's hap - py hearts In this wor-ship bear their parts;



Praise God, all ye hosts a - bove, Ev - er bright and fair in love;
Minds of knowl-edge and of law, To the glo - rious cir - cle draw;
From the north to south-ern pole Let the might - y cho - rus roll;



Sun and moon, up - lift your voice, Night and stars, in God re - joice!
All who work and all who wait, Sing, "Our God is good and great!"
"Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly One, Glo - ry be to God a - lone!"



MY GOD, WHERE SHALL I GO

Adam M. L. Tice

WHERE
Sally Ann Morris



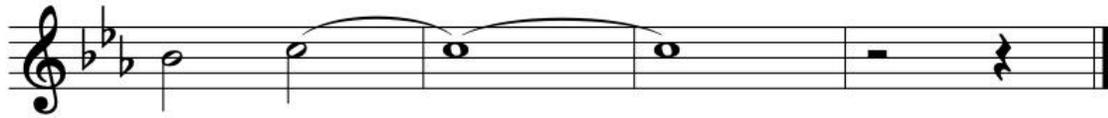
1. My God, where shall I go to fol - low
2. My God, where could I go to hide my -
3. My God, where would you go to bring me



af - ter you? What path shall guide me
self from you? What could I hope to
home to you? From moun - tain high to



as I grow? What shall I dare to do to
see and know; what could I dream to do with -
val - ley low your Spir - it guides me through, to



seek you?
out you?
find you.

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