



*“You are the salt of the earth. . . .
You are the light of the world.”*
Matthew 5: 13-14

**5th Sunday After Epiphany
First United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming, Just Peace,
Immigrant Welcoming Congregation
February 5, 2023 – 10:30 a.m.**

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

Prelude

Chaconne in F Minor
Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

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

adapted from Steve Garnass-Holmes

One: "Let there be light," God said,
and you were imagined.

You are love made matter,
Word made flesh,

**Many: the light of God, the light of Being,
Momentarily here in this form,
shining, radiating God.**

One: You don't need to produce it
or generate it. It's who you are.
When you are truly yourself it shines.

Many: The world sparkles with people walking around gleaming.

Even on our deathbeds, we glow.

Let us trust in the light and give thanks to God.

Opening Hymn

You Are Salt for the Earth, O People
#181 (Bring Forth)
verses 1-3

Verse 1: You are salt for the earth, O people: salt for the reign of God!
Share the flavor of life, O people: life in the city of God!

CHORUS: Bring forth the reign of mercy, bring forth the reign of peace;
Bring forth the reign of justice, bring forth the City of God!

Verse 2: You are a light on the hill, O people: light for the City of God!
Shine so holy and bright, O people: shine for the City of God! **CHORUS**

Verse 3: You are a seed of the World, O people: bring forth the reign of God!
Seeds of mercy and seeds of justice, grow in the City of God! **CHORUS**

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: Land Acknowledgement

As a community of faith, we at First UCC Northfield acknowledge that our church was formed on the ancestral homelands of the Wahpekute Band and other bands of the Dakota Nation. Our church began here in 1856 when the Dakota were being forcibly removed from their homelands. With God’s help, we strive to repair ongoing injustices and grow toward right relationships with Indigenous people. We lament the broken treaties and genocide that happened in the Dakota homeland Mni Sota Makoce and the unjust legacy that persists. We faithfully commit ourselves to interrupt this legacy as part of our pledge to work toward racial justice. We will continue with acts of healing through our commitment to hear stories of this place and those who have lived here for generations, to learn about Indigenous history, current stories, and public policies that impact Indigenous people, and to take appropriate action to begin repairing the injustices done to Indigenous people.

Scripture

Matthew 5:13-17
Nancy Carpenter

Sermon

Rev. Lauren Baske Davis

Prayer Hymn

Take My Hands

(See page 7)

The Prayers

All joining worship online are invited to share prayers with the congregation by using the chat function at any point during this time.

Prayer Response

We Do Not Know How to Pray As We Ought
Erik Routley (1917-1982)

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.

Sharing Our Gifts

Offertory

'Tis Winter Now

Monte Mason (1949-)

'Tis winter now; the fallen snow
 Has left the heav'ns all coldly clear;
 Through leafless boughs the sharp winds blow,
 And all the earth lies dead and drear.

His life within the keen air breathes;
 His beauty paints the crimson dawn,
 And clothes the boughs with glittering

wreaths.

And yet God's love is not withdrawn;

And though abroad the sharp winds blow,
 And skies are chill, and frosts are keen,
 Home closer draws her circle now,
 And warmer glows her light within.

O God! Who give the winter's cold
 As well as summer's joyous rays,
 Us warmly in Thy love enfold,
 And keep us through life's wintry days.

—Samuel Longfellow (1864)

Prayer of Thanks

Holy One, as daylight fills the sky, fill us with your loving presence. May these gifts and our very lives mirror our love for you, whose wisdom has brought us into being, and whose care guides us on our way. Amen.

Celebration of Communion

Communion Hymn

Before the Bread
Elizabeth Alexander (2018)
(see page 8)

Invitation & Words of Institution

Music During Communion

Docti sacris institutis
Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Learned, Lord, in thy own science,
Bread and wine, in sweet compliance,
As a host we offer thee.

Thus in faith the Christian heareth:
That Christ's flesh as bread appeareth,
And as wine his precious blood:

Though we feel it not nor see it,
Living faith that doth decree it
All defects of sense makes good.

Lo! beneath the species dual
(Signs not things), is hid a jewel
Far beyond creation's reach!

—Thomas Aquinas, translated by Monsignor Henry

Hymn of Sending

Sent Forth By God's Blessing
#76 (The Ash Grove)

Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing, the people of God from this dwelling take leave.
The service is ended, O now be extended the fruits of our worship in all who believe.
The seeds of the teaching, receptive hearts reaching, shall blossom in action for God and for all.
God's grace did invite us, and love shall unite us to work for God's realm and to answer the call.

With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living, the tasks of our everyday life we will face.
Our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring, embracing God's children of each tribe and race.
With your grace you feed us, with your light now lead us, unite us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving give honor to Christ and that name which we bear.

Benediction

Postlude

Sonata No. 2: Allegro-Maestoso-Vivace
Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

We're so glad you worshiped here today!
Please join us for coffee and conversation in the Assembly Room after worship.

Thanks to this week's leaders:

Ushers: Elise Eslinger, Brad Hoff, Beth Kallestad, Linda Larson, Chuck Madson, Nalani McCutcheon, Kathy Sandberg
Digital Greeter: Carl Henry

This Week at First UCC:

Sunday, February 5

9:15 a.m. Faith Formation
10:30 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary)
11:30 a.m. Coffee Hour
11:45 a.m. Forum on Gender
6:00 p.m. Evening Gathering Worship

Tuesday, February 7

6:30 p.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal (Assembly Room)

Wednesday, February 8

5:30 p.m. WFFF
6:00 p.m. Ask the Pastors (Library)
7:00 p.m. Senior Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, February 12

9:15 a.m. Faith Formation
10:30 a.m. Worship
11:30 a.m. Coffee Hour
11:45 a.m. Conversation on Gender
1:00 p.m. Confirmation (Big Room)
6:00 p.m. Evening Gathering Worship

Adult Forum on Gender

Today after worship Jackie McNeil will be holding a talk on gender in the 20th century and how its perception and understanding have changed through time. This is a two-part forum: the talk will be held today, and the conversation about the subject will be held next week (February 12).

Join Us for WFFF This Week: Ask the Pastor

Join us for dinner at WFFF this Wednesday at 5:30 p.m., followed by our first pop-up “Ask the Pastor” conversation. Both Pastor Lauren and Pastor Cindy will be available to talk with you, or try to answer your burning theological or spiritual questions. No wondering is too big or small!

Documentary To Be Shown Tuesday

The Northfield premiere screening and panel discussion of Cecilia Cornejo’s documentary, *Ways of Being Home*, is Tuesday, February 7th at 7:00 p.m. at the Weitz Center for Performing Arts as part of the International Film Forum. Cecilia documented the lives of Northfield’s Latino community, their home of origin in Maltrata and their life here. This is a rare and must-see opportunity to become acquainted with our migrant neighbors.

A Note from ISAIAH

Your years of action are rapidly producing results in areas of concern. Contact your MN Senator and Representative (found at <https://www.gis.lcc.mn.gov/iMaps/districts/>) to voice support for votes on Restore the Vote legislation; Paid Family and Medical Leave; and MNCare Buy-in as they face key hurdles. The 100% Clean Energy bill passed the House and could well have passed the Senate by the time you read this. Questions about legislation or voicing your views? Email isaiah@firstucc.org.

Coffee Hour Volunteers and Coordinator Needed

Volunteer hosts are needed for Coffee Hour! Volunteering is easy to do, and orientation will be provided for those who are new to Coffee Hour hosting. Interested? [Sign up to host here](#). First UCC is also looking for a volunteer to serve as the Coffee Hour coordinator. If you are interested, please contact church@firstucc.org.

TAKE MY HANDS

Adam M. L. Tice

BLESSING OF HANDS

Sally Ann Morris



1. Take my hands, oh, take my hands. Take my hands, oh,
2. Guide my feet, oh, guide my feet. Guide my feet, oh,
3. Tune my heart, oh, tune my heart. Tune my heart, oh,
4. Bless my soul, oh, bless my soul. Bless my soul, oh,



take my hands. Let them bless; let them
guide my feet. Help them move; help them
tune my heart. Make it sing; make it
bless my soul. I am yours; I am



o - pen wide. Take my hands, O God.
lead the way. Guide my feet, O God.
full of love. Tune my heart, O God.
in your hands. Bless my soul, O God.

Text Copyright © 2015 by GIA Publications, Inc. • All rights reserved
Music Copyright © 2013 by GIA Publications, Inc. • All rights reserved

Before the Bread

Wholeheartedly

English folk blessing

Elizabeth Alexander

1

Be - fore the bread the mill, Be -

4 2

- fore the mill the grain, Be -

6 3

- fore the grain the sun and rain, the

8 4

beau - ty of God's will.

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a time signature of 3/4. It consists of four lines of music, each starting with a circled number (1, 2, 3, 4) and a measure number (4, 6, 8). The lyrics are: "Be - fore the bread the mill, Be - fore the mill the grain, Be - fore the grain the sun and rain, the beau - ty of God's will."

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

Where Two or Three Are Gathered © 2002 Bruce Harding

Before the Bread © 2018 Elizabeth Alexander

Cover art: Moyers, Mike. Be Thou My Vision, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library.

<https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=57145>. Original source: Mike Moyers,

<https://www.mikemoyersfineart.com/>.

Welcome to Worship at First UCC!

We are an Open and Affirming, Just Peace, Immigrant Welcoming Congregation.

Wherever you are on your journey of faith, you are welcome here!

We especially welcome all who are visiting this morning. Please let us know you're here by sharing your information in a welcome pad.

Worship Information

First UCC worships at 10:30 a.m. 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!

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 "Donate Online Now!" under the "Giving" tab, place your gift in the offering plate, 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, at firstucc.org, and find First UCC on Facebook and Instagram. Past issues of The Chronicle are available at firstucc.org.

First UCC Leadership & Staff

Ministers: All the people

Moderator: Gary Carlson

Senior Minister: Rev. Cindy Maddox

Associate Minister: Rev. Lauren Baske Davis

Director of Music: Chris Brunelle

Organist: Theo Wee

Spirit Voices Director & Arts Coordinator: Bob Gregory-Bjorklund

Office Manager & Director of Communications: *Position Open*

Finance Manager: Pippa Younger

Sexton: Mark Fischer

Audio Visual Technician: Brynn Artley