



Stories that Nourish Us Through Abundance

First United Church of Christ, Northfield

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

Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

November 19, 2023 – 10:30 a.m.

Welcome to worship! Are you visiting us today? We invite you to fill out our [Virtual Visitor Card](#).

Prelude *Two Preludes on "Kremser"* Matthew Corl
Craig Phillips

Welcome Dorothea Hrossowyc

Gathering Music *Where Two or Three Are Gathered* Bruce Harding (2002)
Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there.

Call to Worship Rev. Jeff Ramsland, Pastor
Cherokee UMC, Cherokee NC

One: Let us give thanks for this beautiful day, for it is a gift from Creator.

Many: Let us give thanks for the water without which life would not be possible.

One: Let us give thanks for Grandmother Earth who protects and nourishes us.

Many: We give thanks for earth, air, sun, and water, in which we see the hand of Creator.

One: Let us give thanks for this life.

Many: It is a gift from Creator.

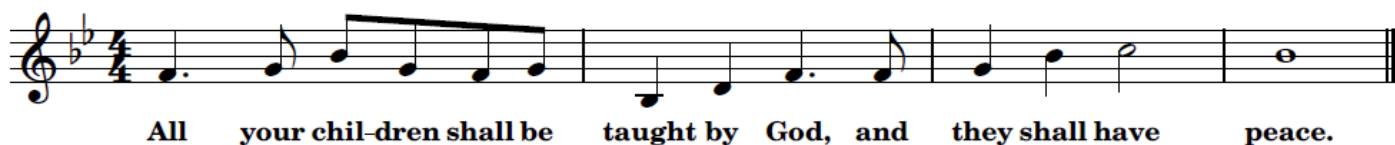
Opening Hymn *Come, O Thankful People, Come* #422 (St. George's Windsor)

V1: Come, O thankful people, come,
raise the song of harvest home;
all is safely gathered in
as the winter storms begin;
God our Maker does provide
for our wants to be supplied;
come to God's own temple, come,
raise the song of harvest home.

V2: All the blessings of the field,
all the stores the gardens yield,
all the fruits in full supply,
ripened 'neath the summer sky,

All that spring with bounteous hand
scatters o'er the smiling land,
all that liberal autumn pours
from its rich o'er-flowing stores,
V3: These to you, our God, we owe,
source from whom all blessings flow;
and for these our songs we raise,
grateful vows and solemn praise.
Come, then, thankful people, come,
raise the song of harvest home;
come to God's own temple, come,
raise the song of harvest home.

Time with Children



Covenant: Land Acknowledgment Statement

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 Makoꝛe 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.

Anthem	<i>You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore</i>	Cesário Gabaraín (1979)
Scripture	Luke 5:1-11; John 21:1-14	Loy Jeffrey
Sermon		Rev. Cindy Maddox
Prayer Hymn	<i>Creating God, Your Fingers Trace</i>	see bulletin page 8

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

O God, hear my prayer, O God, hear my prayer. When I call, answer me.

O God, hear my prayer, O God, hear my prayer. Come and listen to me.

Prayer of Jesus

You are invited to speak the words most meaningful to you, or follow with this version:

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

The hearts in the offering plates are for the children's offering, which is given to the Community Action Center Food Shelf.

Offertory

For Everyone Born

Brian Mann (2006)

Alice Ryan, cello

arr. Tom Trenney (2019)

Prayer of Thanks

Earth-Maker and Creator God, we acknowledge that we were created to honor one another, and in so doing we honor you. Accept these gifts as we try to reflect your image of Love in the world. Amen.

Announcements

Hymn of Sending

For the Fruit of All Creation

#425 (Ar Hyd Y Nos)

V1: For the fruit of all creation,
thanks be to God.
For God's gifts to every nation,
thanks be to God.
For the plowing, sowing, reaping,
silent growth while we are sleeping,
Future needs in earth's safe-keeping,
thanks be to God.

V2: In the just reward of labor,
God's will is done.
In the help we give our neighbor,

God's will is done.
In our world-wide task of caring
for the hungry and despairing,
In the harvests we are sharing,
God's will is done.
V3: For the harvests of the Spirit,
thanks be to God.
For the good we all inherit,
thanks be to God.
For the wonders that astound us,
for the truths that still confound us,

Most of all that love has found us,

thanks be to God.

Benediction

Postlude

Toccata in F Major

Dieterich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

Faiz Wareh, organ

We're so glad you worshiped here today!

Please join us for a coffee hour in the Assembly Room after worship!

Thanks to this week's leaders:

Music: Spirit Voices

Ushers: Lois Langerak, Mary Savina, Betsy Barrett, Cheryl Rempel, Leota Goodney

Digital Host: Carl Henry

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Where Two or Three © 2002 Bruce Harding

For Everyone Born (words) © 1998 Hope Publishing Company, (music) © 2006 Brian Mann, (arrangement) © 2019 Birnamwood

Cover Art: Photo by Quang Nguyen Vinh:

<https://www.pexels.com/photo/group-of-fishermen-on-the-sea-shore-during-sunrise-6346635/>

This Week at First UCC

Sunday, November 19

10:30 a.m. Worship

11:30 a.m. Coffee Hour

6:00 p.m. Evening Service

7:00 p.m. Apartheid Presentation

Tuesday, November 21

6:00 p.m. Trustees' Meeting

Thursday, November 23 - Office Closed

Friday, November 24 - Office Closed

Sunday, November 26

10:30 a.m. Worship

11:30 a.m. Coffee Hour

2:00 p.m. Holiday Brass Concert

6:00 p.m. Evening Service

New Member Sunday

New Member Sunday will occur on December 10th during service at 10:30 a.m. We hope those of you who have not "officially" become members of First UCC yet will plan to join us! For more information or to let us know you would like to join, please contact Jean Haslett, Membership Team Chair, at hasletts66@yahoo.com or at 507-650-0753. Hope to see you then!

Gaza, Israel & Apartheid

For the past two weeks Jenny Hartley and Fred Rogers have helped us explore ways of understanding what has occurred recently, including the background of Gaza and Palestine before October 7. In the final session, held tonight at 7pm, we will look at the question of whether it is fair to call Israel an apartheid state. Please join us in the Assembly Room.

Holiday Brass Concert - November 26th @ 2:00 p.m.

We are excited to announce that the Holiday Brass Band will be bringing their annual concert to Northfield this year! This special performance is free and open to the public. They will play a spirited mix of music to delight all ages: *Frosty the Snowman*, *Let It Snow!*, and thrilling full-band compositions are all on the list. Bring yourself, your friends and family for this free show on the Sunday after Thanksgiving. We hope to see you there!

We stand on Dakota Homeland

Thanks to members Dean Paxton of the BLA team and Dan Neuger of Engage Print, we now have signs on our lawn that declare we are on the homeland of the Dakota Nation, specifically the Wahpekute Band. The signs, similar to campaign signs, are waterproof and come with a wire stand. If you would like a sign for your own lawn, business, or organization you can buy one in the church office for \$15. Make checks payable to First UCC.

A Note from ISAIAH

Join us for a state-wide Zoom Healthcare strategy session for the new legislative session starting next January. To attend, please go to the Members and Friends page of our website. Questions about legislation or voicing your views? Email isaiah@firstucc.org.

Creation Care Eco-Info:

The upcoming UN Climate Change Conference will consider the progress or lack thereof on meeting goals for reducing emissions and mitigating damaging impacts. Many wealthy countries, including the US, are behind on their commitments. Do your federal policy-makers know how you feel about this?

CONNECT: Journey through Advent to Christmas

Members and friends of First UCC are invited to gather during Advent for a CONNECT group meeting on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m., with 5 meetings scheduled: November 29th, December 6, 13, and 20th, and January 3. Like other Connect groups, our goal is exploration of faith through sharing our stories, considering meaningful subjects, and listening to one another. Each meeting will be 60-75 minutes, starting 6:30. You may also come to WFFF at 5:30 and enjoy dinner and socializing with others before the Connect gathering. If you are interested in

joining others to experience and explore the 2023 journey through Advent to Christmas, please sign up by calling or sending an email to the church office: 507-645-7532 or church@firstucc.org. Contact Judy Bond at jbond@uwsp.edu with any questions you may have. In case of bad weather or school cancellation, a Zoom option will be available.



Haudenosaunee Thanksgiving Address: Greetings to the Natural World

The People

Today we have gathered and we see that the cycles of life continue. We have been given the duty to live in balance and harmony with each other and all living things. So now, we bring our minds together as one as we give greetings and thanks to each other as people. Now our minds are one.

The Earth Mother

We are all thankful to our Mother, the Earth, for she gives us all that we need for life. She supports our feet as we walk about upon her. It gives us joy that she continues to care for us as she has from the beginning of time. To our mother, we send greetings and thanks. Now our minds are one.

The Creator

Now we turn our thoughts to the Creator, or Great Spirit, and send greetings and thanks for all the gifts of Creation. Everything we need to live a good life is here on this Mother Earth. For all the love that is still around us, we gather our minds together as one and send our choicest words of greetings and thanks to the Creator. Now our minds are one.

This Thanksgiving Address continues to thank the waters, the fish, the plants, etc. For the entire address see

https://americanindian.si.edu/environment/pdf/01_02_Thanksgiving_Address.pdf. This translation of the Mohawk version of the Haudenosaunee Thanksgiving Address was developed, published in 1993, and provided, courtesy of Six Nations Indian Museum and the Tracking Project.

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're glad to have you here!

Giving to the Church

Thank you for your continued generosity and support of First UCC's ministry. You may give online by visiting firstucc.org and clicking on the "Give" button, or you may 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 under the "About" tab. You can also find First UCC on Facebook and Instagram.

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: Catherine Rodland

Spirit Voices Director & Arts Coordinator: Bob Gregory-Bjorklund

Office Manager & Director of Communications: Kate Kvasnak

Finance Manager: Derek Melby

Sexton: Mark Fischer

Audio Visual Technician: Brynn Artley

Creating God, Your Fingers Trace

Jeffrey Rowthorn

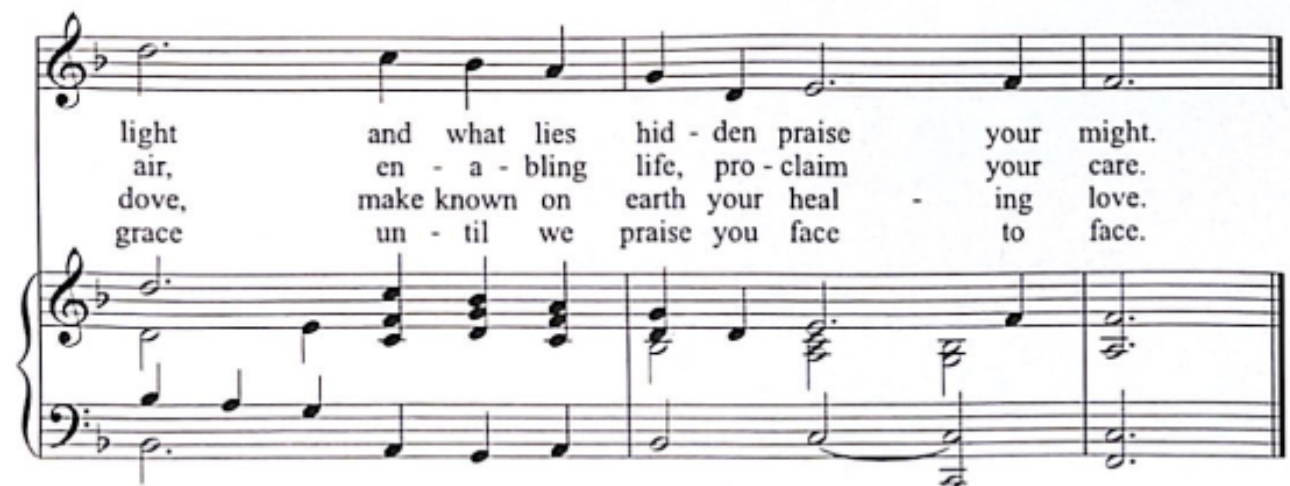
Vernon Griffiths



1. Cre - at - ing God, your fin - gers trace the bold de -
2. Sus - tain - ing God, your hands up - hold earth's mys - t'ries
3. Re - deem - ing God, your arms em - brace all now de -
4. In - dwell - ing God, your gos - pel claims one fam - 'ly



signs of far - thest space; let sun and moon and stars and
known or yet un - told; let wa - ter's frag - ile blend with
spised for creed or race; let peace, de - scend - ing like a
with a bil - lion names; let ev - 'ry life be touched by



light and what lies hid - den praise your might.
air, en - a - bling life, pro - claim your care.
dove, make known on earth your heal - ing love.
grace un - til we praise you face to face.