

Sunday, October 28, 2022

"There is no remedy for love but to love more."
- Henry David Thoreau



To join worship this morning via zoom app, click this link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83928727469?pwd=WFhzWkJlFQjBhTlp4UEUvdWRhS2lKdz09> (if you are asked for a password, it is: 890967). **To dial in by phone** call 1 312 626 6799. When prompted, enter **839 2872 7469#**. Next, you will be prompted to enter your participant ID or to push #; **simply push # again.**

Music will be displayed on the screen during the service.

Prelude: "The Prayer of St. Gregory" by Alan Hovhaness

Welcome

If you're new to First Church, we'd love to get to know you better. You can sign up to receive our email communications on the home page of our website, www.firstchurchmn.org (scroll down to the heading "stay connected" on the right side of the page). You find us on Facebook by searching for "First Congregational Church of MN, UCC." You're also welcome to introduce yourself in the chat or comments.

Introit: "Earth Song" by Frank Ticheli

Gathering Words: from "Leavings" by Wendell Berry

Hymn: *To You, O God, All Creatures Sing* (verses 1–4) NCH 17

Naming Our Saints

L: Let us remember those faithful ones at rest here in our sanctuary.
Names are read and photos shown.

L: Let us remember the beloved members of our congregation who have died in the past year.
Names are read and photos shown.

L: Let us remember all our saints.
At this time you are invited to speak names aloud in the sanctuary. The names written on the clipboard and placed in the chat will also be read.

Lighting of the Candles

You are invited to light a candle in memory of your saints—at the communion table or in the back of the sanctuary by the columbarium.

Sung during candlelighting: *Ubi Caritas*, Taizé

Scripture: Psalm 121

Solo: *Piè Jesus* from the Fauré Requiem

Scripture: Luke 6:20–31, First Nations version

Poem: "Blessing for the Brokenhearted" by Jan Richardson

Hymn: *Come, Ye Disconsolate*

Prayers of the People: Please share your prayer requests in the chat and we will pray with you.

Lord's Prayer

A commonly used form is printed below. You are welcome to use the version most meaningful to you.

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 for ever. Amen.

Generosity Moment: Melissa Harl

Offering

We invite your financial gifts to support our ministries within and beyond First Church. October's Special Offering will go to Neighbors in Need, part of the UCC annual special offerings.

Please leave your offering in the offering plates on the table in the back.

You can also give electronically by going to our website:

www.firstchurchmn.org, and clicking on the "Support Us" link. You can also give by texting 612-255-4109: "\$(amount) Special" (for the monthly offering) or "\$(amount) General Fund. If you give by check, please make it out to First Church with "NIN" in the memo line. Thank you!

Offertory: "Wanting Memories" by Ysaye M. Barnwell

Offertory Response: *To You, O God, All Creatures Sing* (v. 6), NCH 17

Prayer of Dedication

All: Divine Comforter, we give you our grateful and grieving hearts. May we be your partners in curing this world with your love. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

Hymn: *For All the Saints*, NCH 299

Benediction

Choral Benediction: "In This Place" by Will Todd

Postlude

Thanks to those who serve in the following roles today:

Usher: Tim Danz

Readers: Paul Snyder, Sally Wingert

Special Music: Beckett Shuholm, trumpet; Ann Sather, violin; Linda Valerian, soprano

Tech Support: Maggie George, Gabe Magby

Coffee Hour: Brad Schumann

Valet: Paul Snyder

Coming up this week

Sunday, Oct. 30

9:30a: Coffee Hour (in person)

10a: Worship (hybrid)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83928727469?pwd=WFhzWkJFQjBhTlp4UEUvdWRhS2lKdz09>

11a: Coffee Hour (hybrid—stay on worship Zoom meeting)

11:20: 2nd Hour: “Electrification” (stay on Zoom meeting)

Monday, October 31

9:30a: SE Playgroup

Tuesday, November 1

1p: Book Study group

Wednesday, November 2

7p: Choir rehearsal

Thursday, November 3

9:30a: SE Playgroup

Sunday, November 6

10a: Worship/Communion (hybrid)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83928727469?pwd=WFhzWkJFQjBhTlp4UEUvdWRhS2lKdz09>

11a: Coffee Hour (hybrid—stay on worship Zoom meeting)

11:20a: “Sharing Faith” wrap up (stay on Zoom meeting)

12:20p: Faith Formation Team

2nd Hour Today: “Electrification.” A resolution was passed by the MN Conference UCC that calls for us to plan for the electrification of our homes and church buildings. We are being asked to support the resolution as a congregation so that it can be brought to the UCC General Synod (our denomination’s national meeting). Dwight Wagenius, Community Minister at Mayflower UCC, and one of the resolution’s authors, will be our guest presenter as we learn about this issue. Copies of the resolution are available in the back of the Sanctuary.

Dedication of Pledges. On Sunday Nov. 6 during worship we will be dedicating our pledges for the ministry of First Church and for reparations, in 2023. Please bring your pledge card with you to worship that day or send the information on the card to financial secretary Kathy Hansen (Khansen3@fairview.org).

Public Education Resolution. New Brighton UCC is asking for our support by co-sponsoring a resolution supporting public education and educators: “A Resolution Supporting Public School Educators, Academic Freedom, and Equity Efforts in Schools.” Our MN conference UCC overwhelmingly approved the resolution and would like to send it on to the General Synod at our national meeting. This requires five “concurring congregations.” With news of book banning, teachers’ curriculum being questioned, and words being banished from classrooms it makes sense that the UCC would speak to these outrages. Academic freedom is in danger. This resolution speaks clearly to the need/right of every student to be valued and places that responsibility in the hands of professionals, i.e., our public-school teachers

Supporting Each Other. Occasionally a member of our congregational community reaches out to Jane or to the Congregational Care Team looking for some specific help. The nature of the request can vary—doing a household chore, cooking a meal, or simply visiting or even calling. The Congregational Care Team is creating a list of people willing to help in some of these situations. When a request comes in Jane will email the list, taking into account preferences the person receiving assistance has about who is contacted. Anyone who can fulfill the need will reply saying they will offer the necessary support. If the task or the timing is bad for you, no worries!

If you are interested in being part of the Direct Support Group of volunteers, please contact Jane with your email address. Please consider joining this group; the more of us who volunteer, the easier the tasks will be!

Support the People’s Climate and Equity Plan! On Nov. 6 at 3p, we are invited to join with interns from MN 350 to door knock to get the word out about the People’s Climate and Equity Plan in the neighborhood around church. Please let Jane know if you can help with this.

Background: Minneapolis is in the process of updating their 10-year Climate Action Plan. With new federal dollars available starting in January, the city has the opportunity to completely transform Minneapolis. The People's Climate & Equity fund, together with Inflation Reduction Act funding, would allow Minneapolis to make 100% carbon-free buildings, clean transportation, and stable, healthy neighborhoods available to everyone, no exceptions. Investing in access for all makes the transition to clean energy faster and builds more wealth in our communities. It also allows us to make sure clean energy jobs pay well and to tap into new renewable resources like networked geothermal. More information about the plan is available at the back of the sanctuary.

Social media working group. One of our goals this year as a congregation is to be more visible in our community. One dimension of this visibility is making ourselves known more consistently and effectively on social media. In particular, we want to develop a more robust presence on Instagram, and to find ways to amplify our presence on YouTube. In cooperation with the Hospitality and Engagement Team, Jane is looking for a few volunteers who would like to be part of this effort. This would mean committing to some time for training, developing a shared strategy, and eventually taking some time each week to create/distribute social media content for the church. Let Jane know if this sounds like something you could do!