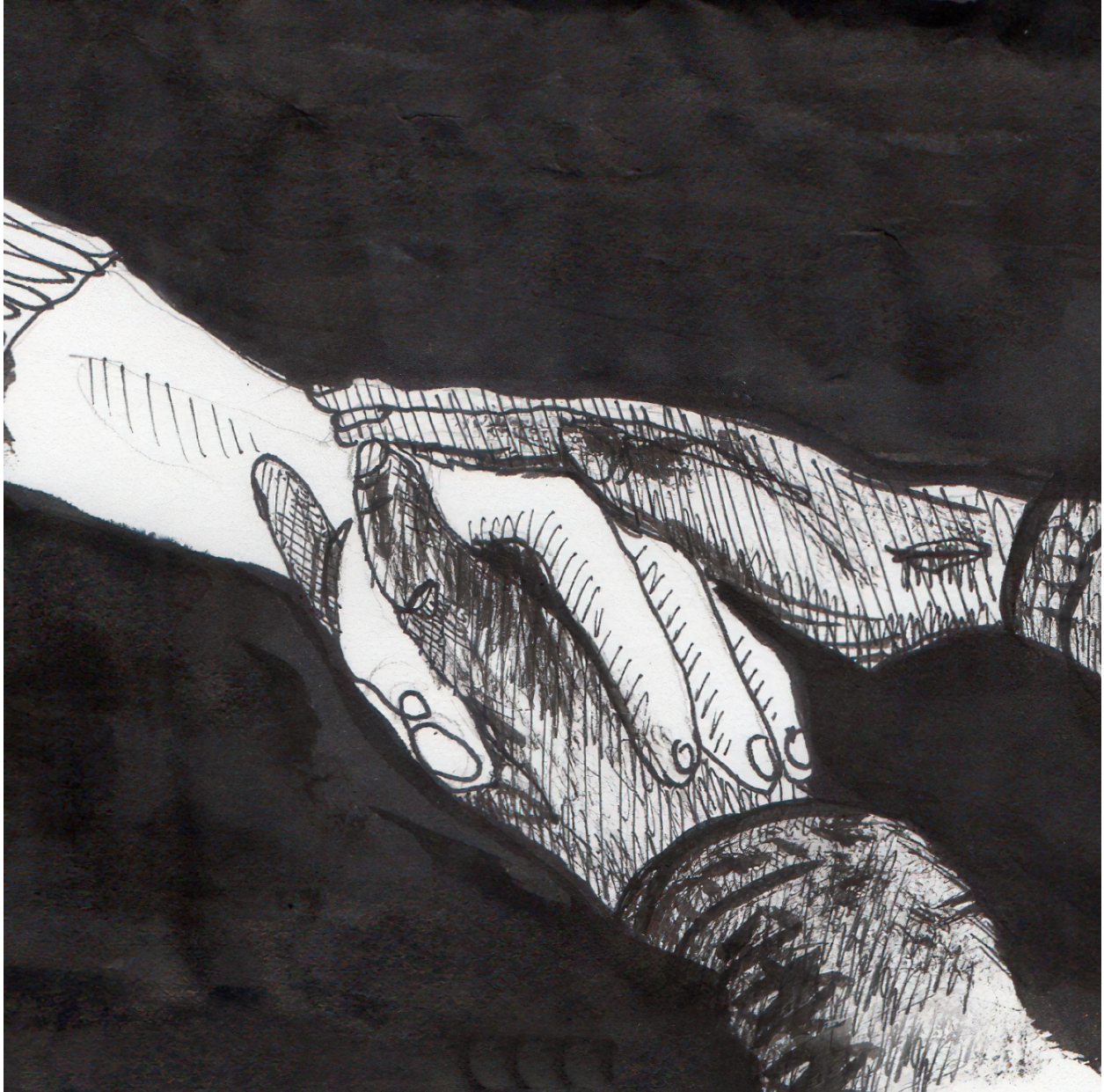


August 24, 2025
21st Sunday in Ordinary Time



Liz Valente, Holding Hands.

<http://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=57530>

To join worship this morning via Zoom, click this link:

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

(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

Welcome

Gathering Words: “Kindness” by Naomi Shihab Nye

Prayer of Confession and Renewal

Hymn 175: “O Christ the Healer, We Have Come”

Scripture: Isaiah 58:9b-14; Luke 13:10-17

Time with Children

Anthem: “O For the Wings of a Dove,” Felix Mendelssohn

Sermon: “The Healing Power of ‘No’,” Richard Lanford

Hymn 62: “That Woman in the Crowd”

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.

Offering

We invite your financial gifts to support our ministries within and beyond First Church. August's special offering supports Marcy School Meals/EveryMeal. Give electronically at our website: www.firstchurchmn.org; click 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 "Marcy Meals" in the memo line.



Offertory Anthem: "I Will Sing of Thy Great Mercies," Felix Mendelssohn

Offertory Response: "Caminemos con Jesús"

Prayer of Dedication

Announcements

Hymn 547: "Amazing Grace"

Benediction

Postlude

Thanks to those who serve in the following roles today:

Valet: George Domstrand

Usher: Beth Lanford

Reader: Xan Laurence

Worship Leaders: Sandy Johnson, Richard Lanford

Special Music: Linda Valerian

Tech Support: Greg Hubinger, Scott Williams

Coffee Hour: Eileen King/Community Kitchen

Coming up this week

Sunday, August 24

9:30a: Coffee Hour

10a: Worship (hybrid)

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

11:15a: Coffee Hour

Monday, August 25

9:30a: SE Playgroup

Tuesday, August 26

Noon: Bible Study

1:15p: Building Committee

6p: NA/ AA meeting

Thursday, August 28

9:30a: SE Playgroup

noon: Indigenous Book Group

Sunday, August 31

9:30a: Coffee Hour

10a: Worship (hybrid)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83928727469?pwd=WFhzWkJFQjBhTlp4UEUvdWRhS2IKdz09>

11:15a: Coffee Hour

About the special music: Felix Mendelssohn composed "O for the Wings of a Dove" as a setting of Psalm 55, expressing the human longing to flee from suffering and find peace. He composed "I Will Sing of Thy Great Mercies" as part of his oratorio *St. Paul*. It assures the listener that despite rejection and hardship, God's mercy is everlasting.

Meals for Brad. Our facilities manager, Brad Schumann, is recovering well from his recent surgery. We'd like to support him by providing a few meals. You can sign up via this Meal Train: <https://mealtrain.com/n9zgyq>

Democracy in Action. Our newly formed Democracy in Action group will gather Sunday, Sept 7 from 6:00 to 7:30 in the Gathering Hall to organize, strategize, and advocate for our values. Our first action together is to participate in Indivisible's "One Million Rising: Strategic Cooperation to Fight Authoritarianism" campaign. More information and sign up in the back of the sanctuary.

Community Night is Coming—Plants and Volunteers are Needed! Once again we'll be providing baked potatoes, sweet treats, and plants to our student neighbors on Community Night, September 10, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

If you're able to help with food—prep, serving, or clean-up—there is a sign up sheet in the back of the sanctuary, or let Joy Gullikson know you are available to help: joygullikson79@gmail.com.

If you have an indoor potted or hanging plant that you wish to donate please bring it to the Gathering Hall on Sunday morning, September 7! If you have other plant-related items you may leave those starting August 31: clean empty pots or decorative containers, small bags of potting soil, small watering cans, books about houseplant care, etc. Thanks for sharing!

Let's Make Music Together! The choir season is just around the corner and we're excited once again to come together to offer choral music that is inspiring, diverse, and meaningful to our worship services in the upcoming year. If you have ever wanted to sing with a group in a welcoming, mutually supportive, and artistically sustaining atmosphere, this is the place for you. We rehearse from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. on Wednesday evenings starting September 3 and at 9:00 a.m. on Sundays in the sanctuary. Feel free to drop in and see what you think. Singers of all experience levels are very welcome!

We also invite musicians of all kinds to offer your gifts for our worship services as soloists or in groups—we want to include all styles, abilities and ages, truly!

“Dinners for 7.” There's still time to sign up for the second of these dinners, which will take place on September 20. Various members of the community will host. Contact Maggie George to get the link to a Google Sign Up doc (or just email her about which day works for you): maggieshannongeorge@gmail.com.