

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Seventh Sunday of Easter

June 2, 2019

8:30 and 10:30 a.m.

*By faithfulness we are collected and wound up into unity within ourselves,
whereas we had been scattered abroad in multiplicity. – Augustine*

In necessary things, unity; in doubtful things, liberty; in all things, charity. – Anne Baxter

**No matter who you are,
or where you are on life's journey,
you're welcome in this
United Church of Christ congregation...**



*Those who feel comfortable standing, please stand.
Underlined items 8:30 a.m. worship.

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Pastoral Greeting and Announcements

Prelude

Simple Gifts

Wilbur Held

Graduate Recognition

Special Music

You Raise Me Up
Sign Choir

Secret Garden
sung by Josh Grobin

*Call to Worship:

One: We come to this place of prayer,

All: for here we can bring our hopes and dreams, our hidden fears and the doubts we dare wear on our sleeves.

One: We come to this place of grace,

All: for here we learn compassion and joy, and discover how deeply we are loved.

One: We come with these people called the church,

All: to be blessed by a variety of gifts, to live as one for our God.

*Opening Hymn

The Church's One Foundation, v. 1,2,5

#272

*Prayer of Confession

One: Holy God, you have called us to unity, but often we have isolated ourselves from others. Forgive us for the times we have turned our backs on those who are different.

All: You have called us to live together as one body. Forgive us for the times we have created division within your worldwide church.

One: You ask us to look, listen, and learn from others. Forgive us for the times we have ridiculed and attacked those with different viewpoints.

All: You ask us to accept and seek to understand all who are called by your name. Forgive us for the times we have offended you by failing to love others as we do ourselves.

Words of Assurance

One: Jesus prayed that the church might be one. God renews our minds and rekindles love in our hearts, so that by the power of the Spirit, we find the oneness that God intends for us.

All: In God's oneness, we see our need for unity and for community. In God's creativity, we see our need for diversity. In God's wholeness, we see our need to love one another.

Passing of the Peace

*Praise Response

Spirit of the Living God

#259

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Children's Message

Children in Kindergarten through 4th grade will leave for class following the Children's Message and return to their families for The Sacrament of Holy Communion. Grades 5 through 12 will remain in worship.

Volunteer Recognition

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Gospel Reading

John 17:20-26

NT page 105

Large print page 136

Reader: God is still speaking,

People: **Thanks be to God.**

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S LOVE

Missionary Commissioning Litany

Team: We go to be present with one another and with those who host us.

All: We are one in the Spirit. We are one in the Lord.

Team: We go to make a change for good in our own lives and in the lives of others.

All: We will walk with each other. We will walk hand in hand.

Team: We go to experience God in new and powerful ways.

All: And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land.

Team: We go so we can return, empowered to work for a just world for all.

All: And we pray that all unity may one day be restored. As you go, we go with you: awed by God's wonder, present with our prayers, changed by your commitment, and empowered to work together upon your return for a just world for all. They'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love. Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love. Amen.

Call to Offering and Consecration of Pledges

One: God cares for us in ways which are passionate, poignant, and enduring,

All: and we love God with all our heart and soul, mind and strength.

One: We have much to give and offer:

All: Passionate Worship, Extravagant Generosity and Hospitality, Risk-Taking Mission and Service, and Inspirational, Intentional Faith.

One: As we plan with joy our work together for the next year, let us give as we are able and ask God to consecrate all that we bring in love, care, and to the best of our ability, knowing that giving brings healing and helps us embody the life and ministry of Jesus in love and service. Let us celebrate and give thanks for God's presence among us!

Invitation to the Sacrament of Communion

Prayer of Preparation

One: The Holy One be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Open your hearts to the One who is Love.

All: Our hearts are open to God.

One: Let us give thanks and praise to the Holy One.

All: We give you thanks, O God!

One: Thank you, gracious God, for meeting us at this table. Created in your image, you made us each different from one another, and yet created us to live as one. Forgive us when we work to keep some of your beloved children from being welcomed at this table.

All: Though we long to practice love, evil still holds power over us. We struggle to confront the unjust powers and prejudices that keep us from being in full relationship with you and one another.

One: In Jesus, you showed us an alternative way as he practiced a counter-cultural commitment to loving all your children, including the despised ones of his time.

All: He modeled for us what it looks like to practice love, both interpersonally, and by confronting political and religious powers that destroy. Because of his relentless pursuit of love, he was seized by those in power.

Words of Institution, Prayer of Consecration and Prayer of Our Savior

Our Father, 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Sharing the Meal

Prayer of Dedication

Gracious and generous God, giver of all that is good, true and life-giving, receive these pledges that represent our dream, our sweat, our very lives. The commitments that we make today are pledged in thanksgiving for all that we have received, been inspired to be, and are challenged to become. We make these offerings to you as sacred and holy, filled with possibility.

Having been filled at the table by the bread of life and the cup of blessing, we go forth now to bring light to the shadows, hope for the despairing, healing for the broken and justice for the forsaken. Amen.

WE GO OUT WITH GOD'S WORD

*Closing Hymn

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

#433

*Commissioning and Benediction

Postlude

Prelude in C

JS Bach