



## **SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP** *with UCC Westerly*

**November 1, 2020 @ 9:45am\***  
***In-person worship***  
***broadcast live from our sanctuary***

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### **Gathering Music – “Every Drop of Rain”**

[WORDS & MUSIC: Doug Brummund, ©2020 B.R. Music. All rights reserved. Used with permission.]

## **PASTOR’S WELCOME**

### **Prelude – “I Sing a Song of the Saints of God”**

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## **DEACON’S GREETING**

**CALL TO WORSHIP** - [adapted from *Touch Holiness*, Duck & Tirabassi, ©1990, The Pilgrim Press, p. 173]  
Come together this morning, joining hearts and minds. Let us be links of chain which hold our lives together, not a chain of bondage but a silver cord of strength, a ribbon of love of faith and community, giving us slack to sail the wind, yet holding us in a mystical embrace, that we may be alone but never lonely, that we may be together but never lost in a crowd, that we may be one wherever and however we are together.

### **OPENING SONG – “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”**

[WORDS & MUSIC: Martin Luther, ©Public Domain]

1. *A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;  
Our helper he amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.  
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe; his craft  
And power are great, and armed with cruel hate, on earth is not his equal.*
2. *Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing,  
Were not the right man on our side, the man of God’s own choosing.  
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus it is he; Lord Sabaoth,  
His name, from age to age the same, and he must win the battle.*
3. *And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,  
We will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to triumph through us.  
The Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him; his rage we  
Can endure, for lo, his doom is sure; one little word shall fell him.*
4. *That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth;  
The Spirit and the gifts are ours, through him who with us sideth.  
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also; the body  
They may kill; God’s truth abideth still; his kingdom is forever.*

## UNISON PRAYER OF REFLECTION

[adapted from *Touch Holiness*, Duck & Tirabassi, ©1990, The Pilgrim Press, p. 182]

**We have entered your sacred place, O God, where there are memories of saints, messages of peace, imperatives of prophets; where death is overcome by resurrection and the pain of living turned into redemption; where sin is erased by grace, arrogance overcome with humility, and despair replaced with hope. We are here, and you are waiting for us to receive these gifts. Make it possible during our time together to move closer to you and your will for us. Amen,**

## CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

### STATEMENT OF FAITH -- "A New Creed"

[from the United Church of Canada as it appears in the New Century Hymnal, #887, © 1995, The Pilgrim Press]

#### **We believe in God:**

**Who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

#### **We trust in God.**

#### **We are called to be the Church:**

**To celebrate God's presence, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.**

#### **We are not alone. Thanks be to God.**

### COMMUNION HYMN -- "Let Us Break Bread Together"

[CONTRIBUTORS: William Farley Smith; TUNE: United Methodist Publishing House/Abingdon Press. All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE#A-734569 -- as to both verses]

V. 1 -- *Let us break bread together on our knees (2 X)*

*When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.*

### WORDS OF INVITATION AND PRAYER

### SHARING OF THE ELEMENTS

### UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**Bountiful God, we give you thanks that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world as your rainbow of hope in an uncertain world. Send us in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

### CLOSING HYMN -- "Let Us Break Bread Together"

V. 3 -- *Let us praise God together on our knees (2 X)*

*When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.*

## SCRIPTURE READING

### **Morning Message**

*A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

**Luke 6:27-36**

Rev. Ruth

### **Musical Meditation -- "How blessed are you"**

[WORDS: Matthew 5 & MUSIC: The Taize Community, ©Les Presses de Taize. All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE#A-734569]

## A TIME OF PRAYER

Pastoral Prayer & Silent Prayers

The Lord's Prayer in whatever words are most comfortable for you

## OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

Acknowledgement of Gifts & Offerings\*

\*Doxology *“Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ all creatures here below; Praise Holy Spirit, Comforter; One God, Triune, whom we adore. Amen.”*

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## CLOSING SONG -- *“Let There Be Peace on Earth”*

[[WORDS & MUSIC: Sy Miller & Jill Jackson.©1955 Jan-Lee Music. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE#A-734569]

*Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me;  
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.  
With God our Creator, children all are we.  
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.  
Let peace begin with me; let this be the moment now.  
With every step I take let this be my solemn vow:  
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.  
Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### A PRAYER OF BENEDICTION [The New Century Hymnal, #875]

May God bless you and keep you. May God’s face shine upon you and be gracious to you. May God’s entire being be lifted up upon you and give you peace. Amen.

## PASSING OF THE PEACE

### Postlude – *“Toccata in D Minor”*

[MUSIC: J.S. Bach, ©Public Domain]

### **Points for Reflection**

Welcome to my Fall Sermon Series on hymns and how they inform and deepen our faith. Each week, you are invited to read through the week’s focus scripture and reflect on some questions intended to guide your thoughts on that text. Then, you will be invited to consider how the biblical text connects with the hymn’s verses.

This week’s text: Luke 6:27-36 (see below)

- ☐ This text is taken from Jesus “Sermon the Plain” in Luke’s Gospel. What does Jesus say here about the Kingdom of God on earth?
- ☐ This is the text where Jesus is quite clear in saying we are to love our enemies. How does he suggest we do this?
- ☐ Jesus reminds us that God is “kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.” How is this difficult for you to hear? How does this inspire you?
- ☐ How does this text describe how following Jesus’ teachings here will make us vital parts of God’s “mighty fortress”?
- ☐ Which line of the hymn do you think captures the essence of this biblical text?

*If you would like a copy of my sermon for this week, kindly contact me or Carol in the office and we will send you a copy with next week's Weekly Update.*

### **Luke 6:27-36**

‘But I say to you that listen, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

‘If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.