



## **SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP**

*with UCC Westerly*

**HAPPY LABOR DAY WEEKEND!**

**September 5, 2021 @ 9:45am**  
**In-person &**  
**Broadcast live from our sanctuary**  
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**Gathering Music** A selection by Doug Brummund. [WORDS & MUSIC: Doug Brummund, ©2020 B.R. Music. All rights reserved. Used with permission.]

### **PASTOR'S WELCOME**

#### **PRELUDE – "Here, O My Lord"**

by Todd Kimball, on hymn tune Penitential, ©2003 Lorenz Publishing Company. Used by Permission. CCLI Copyright License 21022161.

### **DEACON'S WELCOME**

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP** [*Gifts of Many Cultures*, Tirabassi & Eddy, p. 4]

Like the sun that is far away and yet close at hand to warm us, so God's Spirit is ever present and around us. Come Creator into our lives. We live and move and have our very being in you. Open now the windows of our souls. Amen.

#### **OPENING SONG -- "As We Gather at Your Table"**

[WORDS: Carl P. Daw Jr. & MUSIC: B.F. White, arr. Jack Schraeder. © WORDS 1989 Hope Publishing Company & © MUSIC 1992 Hope Publishing Company. Used by Permission. CCLI Copyright License 21022161. *Worship & Rejoice* #695]

1. *As we gather at your table, as we listen to your word,  
Help us know, O God, your presence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.  
Nourish us with sacred story till we claim it as our own;  
Teach us through this holy banquet how to make Love's victory known.*
2. *Turn our worship into witness in the sacrament of life;  
Send us forth to love and serve you, bringing peace where there is strife.  
Give us, Christ, your great compassion to forgive as you forgave;  
May we still behold your image in the world you died to save.*

#### **UNISON PRAYER OF REFLECTION -- A Native American Prayer**

[*Gifts of Many Cultures*, Tirabassi & Eddy, p. 121]

**O Great Spirit, whose voice I hear in the winds, and whose breath gives life to all the world, hear me! I am small and weak, I need your strength and wisdom. Let me walk in beauty and make my eyes ever behold the red and purple sunset. Make my hands respect the things You have made and my ears sharp to hear Your voice. Make me wise so that I may understand the things You have taught my people. Let me learn the lessons You have hidden in every leaf and rock. I seek**

**strength, not to be greater than another, but to fight my greatest enemy – myself. Make me always ready to come to You with clean hands and straight eyes. So when life fades, as the fading sunset, my spirit may come to You without shame. Amen.**

## **THE CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION\***

Statement of Faith [Gifts of Many Cultures, Tirabassi & Eddy, p. 121]

**We are called to proclaim the truth. Let us together this day proclaim the truth about human worth and dignity. And let us believe:**

**It is NOT true that this world and its people are doomed to die and be lost.**

**This IS true: There is a future for the children of today.**

**It is NOT true that we must accept inhumanity and discrimination, hunger and poverty, death and destruction.**

**This IS true: The Sovereign Lord will wipe away the tears from all faces and will remove disgrace of people from all the earth.**

**It is NOT true that violence and hatred should have the last word and that war and destruction have come to stay forever.**

**This IS true: The Lord foils the plans of nations and thwarts the purposes of the peoples, but the plans of the Lord stand firm forever, the purposes of the heart of the Lord through all generations.**

**So, let us dream, let us prophesy, let us see visions of love. And let us seek peace and justice with humility, with joy and faith, with courage.**

Hymn of Preparation -- "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]

*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.**

## **THE MORNING MESSAGE –**

**Scripture Reading:** Matthew 25:31-46

**Message –** *The Foundation of the World*

Rev. Ruth

**Meditation Music:** "We Thank You, God, for Feeding Us"

MUSIC by Erik Rowley, ©1990 Hope Publishing Company. Used by Permission. CCLI Copyright License 21022161. *Worship & Rejoice* #707

## **A TIME OF PRAYER**

Pastoral Prayers & Silent Prayer

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

Musical Response

## OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

OFFERTORY ANTHEM -- "For Those Tears I Died,"  
by Masha Stevens, ©1969 Bud John Music, CCLI SongSelect # 13948

Performed by Jim Stott

Acknowledgement of Gifts & Offerings\*

Doxology: [©Public Domain]

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

## CLOSING SONG – "God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens"

[WORDS: Catherine Cameron & MUSIC: William Moore ©1967 Hope Publishing Company. Used by Permission. CCLI Copyright License 21022161. *Worship & Rejoice* #644]

- 1. God, who stretched the spangled heavens, infinite in time and place,  
Flung the suns in burning radiance through the silent fields of space,  
We, your children, in your likeness, share inventive powers with you.  
Great Creator, still creating, show us what we yet may do.*
- 2. As each far horizon beckons, may it challenge us anew,  
Children of creative purpose, serving others, honoring you.  
May our dreams prove rich with promise, each endeavor well begun.  
Great Creator, give us guidance till our goals and yours are one.*

## 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.

### Sung Response – Let There Be Peace on Earth

[WORDS & MUSIC: Sy Miller & Jill Jackson, © 1955, Ren.1983 Jen-Lee Music. Used by Permission. CCLI Copyright License 21022161. *Worship & Rejoice* #614]

*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.*

## PASSING OF THE PEACE

### POSTLUDE – "Psalm of Glory"

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## **Matthew 25:31-46**

‘When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, “Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.” Then the righteous will answer him, “Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?” And the king will answer them, “Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.” Then he will say to those at his left hand, “You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.” Then they also will answer, “Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?” Then he will answer them, “Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.” And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.’