



## **SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP**

*with UCC Westerly*

**January 30, 2022 @ 9:45am**

**Broadcast live from our sanctuary\*\***

**CCLI Streaming License #21022154**

**SNOW SUNDAY!**

**Broadcasting today only from Rev. Ruth's Home!**

**Gathering Music** – *Sunday Morning Sounds at your home and mine!*

### **PASTOR'S WELCOME**

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

[adapted from *Calling on God*, Bankson & Sokolove, Eds. ©2014, Skylight Paths Publishing, p. 146-7]

The ancient stories tell us that long ago God spoke through prophets, revealing God's love through powerful signs, showing a glimpse of divine glory to all who would see. Still we see shadows of God's astonishing beauty in the deep, bright blue of the winter sky. In the frigid air our frosty breath writes our words on the trails of steam into the crisp morning air. In every moment of every day, God calls to us. We gather this day to explore all the marvels of what that means.

#### **OPENING HYMN** – *Spirit of the Living God*

*W&R#492*

[WORDS: Daniel Iverson; vs. 2 Michael Baughen & MUSIC: Daniel Iverson, ©1935 Birdwing Music (Admin. EMI Christian Music Publishing; Words v.2 © 1982 Jubilate Hymns (Admin. Hope Publishing Company; CCLI Song #23488)

#### **UNISON PRAYER OF REFLECTION**

[adapted from "A Sioux Prayer," *Earth Prayers from Around the World*, Elizabeth Roberts & Elias Amidon, Eds., ©1991, Harper San Francisco, p. 184)

**Ancient Great Spirit, All over the world the faces of living ones are alike. With tenderness they have come to be. Look upon your children that they may face the winds and walk the good road to the Day of Quiet. Ancient Great Spirit, Fill us with the Light. Give us the strength to understand, and the eyes to see. Teach us to walk the soft Earth as relatives to all that lives. Amen.**

**THE MORNING MESSAGE** – Exploring the Star Words: *Generosity & Service*

**Scripture Reading:** Matthew 20:1-16

**Message** – *Envyng Generosity*

Rev. Ruth

Meditation Music

#### **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**

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 HYMN** -- *Hymn of Promise*

*W&R#515, v. 1,2*

[WORDS & MUSIC: Natalie Sleeth, ©1986 Hope Publishing Company, CCLI Song #126529]

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**A PRAYER OF BENEDICTION** [Philippians 4:8]

“Brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things” and live them into reality each day, through the glory of God, the love of Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

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## **Matthew 20:1-16**

For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; and he said to them, “You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.” So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, “Why are you standing here idle all day?” They said to him, “Because no one has hired us.” He said to them, “You also go into the vineyard.” When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, “Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.” When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, “These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.” But he replied to one of them, “Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?” So the last will be first, and the first will be last.’