



First Congregational United Church of Christ November 26 , 2023



“A Choice” by Lauren Wright Pittman

Reign of Christ Sunday

Partners in Ministry: **All who are a part of this church**

Pastor: **Rev. Enno K. Limvere**

Musician: **Karina Roth** Choir Director: **Ann Russ**

Peace Candle Lighter: Liturgist:

Greeter: **Bruce Tyler** Usher: **Barbara Chiles**

Coffee-Hour Hosts: **Kileen Limvere**

grandmaraisucc.org ~ (218) 387-2113
300 West 2nd Street, Grand Marais, MN 55604

Gathering Music
Words of Welcome
Prelude

Words to Enter Worship (based on Psalm 81)

People who love turkey: **Sing aloud to God our strength; shout for joy to the God of Jacob. Raise a song, sound the tambourine, the sweet lyre with the harp.**

People who love family: **Blow the trumpet at the new moon, at the full moon, on our festal day.**

People who are grateful: **I hear a voice I had not known: "I relieved your shoulder of the burden, your hands were freed from the basket. In distress you called, and I rescued you.**

People who are stuffed: **I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt. Open your mouth wide and I will fill it. I would feed you with the finest of wheat, and with honey from the rock I would satisfy you."**

Opening Hymn #419 Now We Thank All Our God ([click here](#))

Words of Lament

Merciful God, where do we start to bring peace, to heal nations, people, and the earth? Where do we make a difference and create a better future? What do we say and how do we act?

Immanuel God, who is with us, among us, and in our hearts and minds, heal our hearts and minds and lead us on the path of love. Open our lives, eyes, ears, and souls to follow where Christ leads. Amen.

Time of Silence

Words of Poetry & Lighting the Candle of Peace

It is a custom in our congregation to light our Peace Candle during worship, as a witness to the Prince of Peace and our communal intention to be peacemakers as a Just Peace Church.

The Thanksgivings
by Harriet Maxwell Converse
Translated from a traditional Iroquois prayer

We who are here present thank the Great Spirit that we are here to praise Him.
We thank Him that He has created men and women, and ordered that these beings shall always be living to multiply the earth.

We thank Him for making the earth and giving these beings its products to live on.
We thank Him for the water that comes out of the earth and runs for our lands.
We thank Him for all the animals on the earth.

We thank Him for certain timbers that grow and have fluids coming from them for us all.
We thank Him for the branches of the trees that grow shadows for our shelter.
We thank Him for the beings that come from the west, the thunder and lightning that water the earth.

We thank Him for the light which we call our oldest brother, the sun that works for our good.
We thank Him for all the fruits that grow on the trees and vines.
We thank Him for his goodness in making the forests, and thank all its trees.
We thank Him for the darkness that gives us rest, and for the kind Being of the darkness that gives us light, the moon.

We thank Him for the bright spots in the skies that give us signs, the stars.
We give Him thanks for our supporters, who had charge of our harvests.
We give thanks that the voice of the Great Spirit can still be heard through the words of Ga-ne-o-di-o.

We thank the Great Spirit that we have the privilege of this pleasant occasion.
We give thanks for the persons who can sing the Great Spirit's music, and hope they will be privileged to continue in his faith.

We thank the Great Spirit for all the persons who perform the ceremonies on this occasion.

Passing of the Peace

Hymn #554 Out of the Depths, O God, We Call ([click here](#))

Scripture Reading 2 Kings 22:1-11, 23:1-3 (New Rev. Standard Ver. Updated Ed.)

22 Josiah was eight years old when he began to reign; he reigned thirty-one years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Jedidah daughter of Adaiah of Bozkath. 2 He did what was right in the sight of the Lord and walked in all the way of his father David; he did not turn aside to the right or to the left.

3 In the eighteenth year of King Josiah, the king sent Shaphan son of Azaliah son of Meshullam, the secretary, to the house of the Lord, saying, 4 "Go up to the high priest Hilkiah and have him add up the entire sum of the silver that has been brought into the house of the Lord that the keepers of the threshold have collected from the people; 5 let it be given into the hand of the workers who have the oversight of the house of the Lord; let them give it to the workers who are at the house of the Lord repairing the house, 6 that is, to the carpenters, to the builders, to the masons; and let them use it to buy timber and quarried stone to repair the house. 7 But no accounting shall be asked from them for the silver that is delivered into their hand, for they deal honestly."

8 The high priest Hilkiah said to Shaphan the secretary, "I have found the book of the law in the house of the Lord." When Hilkiah gave the book to Shaphan, he read it. 9 Then Shaphan the secretary came to the king and reported to the king, "Your servants have melted down the silver that was found in the house and have delivered it into the hand of the workers who have oversight of the house of the Lord." 10 Shaphan the secretary informed the king, "The priest Hilkiah has given me a book." Shaphan then read it aloud to the king.

11 When the king heard the words of the book of the law, he tore his clothes.

23 Then the king directed that all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem should be gathered to him. 2 The king went up to the house of the Lord, and with him went all the people of Judah, all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the priests, the prophets, and all the people, both small and great; he read in their hearing all the words of the book of the covenant that had been found in the house of the Lord. 3 The king stood by the pillar and made a covenant before the Lord, to follow the Lord, keeping his commandments, his decrees, and his statutes, with all his heart and all his soul, to perform the words of this covenant that were written in this book. All the people joined in the covenant.

Children's Message Boundaries

Choir Anthem

Message Reformation

Musical Reflections

Anointing (Follow Liturgy on Insert)

Joys and Concerns, Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Our Father, Mother God, you are in heaven, holy is your name. Your kingdom come, your 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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen

News of God at Work in our Congregation & Community

Our Time of Giving

Doxology

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God, for all that love has done.
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen*

Closing Hymn #2 Glory, Glory, Hallelujah ([click here](#))

Benediction

Sending Music



Announcements



Prayer List: Paul Leintz, Rhonda Silence, Meredith Eliot (Church-Davison), Vicki Biggs-Anderson, Paulette Anholm, Mike Carlson, Gwen Dornfeld, Sally Dunn, The Carter Family, All Victims of Gun Violence, Immigrants and Refugees, Countries of Ukraine, Sudan, Israel/Palestine, and Planet Earth.

At home and Care Center: Jean Ljungkull, Nona Smith, Lou Goodell, Bev Denyes, Nancy Cihlar, and Tom Hedstrom.

Measure of our Faithfulness

The First Congregational UCC adopted a 2023 Budget at the Annual Meeting on 28 January 2023, showing a need for a yearly income of \$164,110.00.

After forty-seven weeks, the Budget Donations and Income should be \$145,069.00. The Actual Donations so far this year have been \$139,731.21.

-Kevin LeVoir, Treasurer

This Week at the Church

Thursday, November 23

12:00 - Take-out and Delivery Dinners
1:00 - Open the Doors for here they come.
We gather together in person!

Happy Thanksgiving!

Friday, November 24

7:00 AM - AA
8:00 AM - Harbor Watch (or sleep in and digest turkey)
2:00 PM - 6:00 PM - Piano Lessons
7:30 PM - AA

Saturday, November 25

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM - Piano Lessons

Sunday, November 26

9:30 AM - Choir Practice

10:30 AM Worship Service - Inside AND ON ZOOM, Reign of Christ Sunday. We go back into the historical books of the Hebrew Testament into 2 Kings and look at the reign of King Josiah who heeds the prophets and leads Israel back into a covenant with God. In his zeal to repair the Temple, they find the Torah and gather all the people to hear the words of Moses and God.

2:30 PM - Orchestra Practice for Borealis
4:00 PM - Choir Practice for Borealis

Monday, November 27

11:00 AM - Spring Forest Qi Gong
2:00 - 6:00 PM - Piano Lessons
3:00 - 5:00 PM - Food Shelf
7:00 PM - Al Anon

Tuesday, November 28

2:00 - 6:00 PM - Piano Lessons

Wednesday, November 29

2:00 - 6:00 PM - Piano Lessons
6:00 PM - Confirmation

Thursday, November 30

10:00 AM - Tai Chi
12:00 AM - Women's AA
2:00 - 6:00 PM - Piano Lessons

Friday, December 1

7:00 AM - AA
8:00 AM - Harbor Watch
2:00 PM - 6:00 PM - Piano Lessons
7:30 PM - AA

Saturday, December 2

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM - Piano Lessons

Sunday, December 3

9:30 AM - Pick-up Choir Practice

10:30 AM Worship Service - Inside AND ON ZOOM, 1st Sunday of Advent: Hope. On this Sunday we hear from the Prophet Jeremiah who sees abandoned cities and proclaims they will be filled with mirth and gladness. He doesn't dwell on the current situation, rather, Jeremiah gives a vision of the future that is filled with justice and abundance. Is he speaking to us also, assuring us that even if the worst happens, it is not the end? Do we have hope for a better future?

2:30 PM - Orchestra Practice for Borealis at Bethlehem Lutheran
4:00 PM - Choir Practice for Borealis at Bethlehem Lutheran



Opening Hymn #419 Now We Thank All Our God

1. Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices,
Who, from our parents' arms, has blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.
2. O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,
And keep us still in grace, and guide us when perplexed,
And free us from all ills in this world and the next.
3. All praise and thanks to God our Maker now be given,
To Christ, and Spirit, too, our help in highest heaven,
The one eternal God, whom earth and heaven adore,
For thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

*Words by Martin Rinkart, 1647;
transl. Catherine Winkworth, 1858; alt.
Tune, Johann Crugerm 1647;
harm. Felix Mendelssohn, 1840
One-License No. A-738474*

[return to bulletin](#)



Hymn #554 Out of the Depths, O God, We Call

1. Out of the depths, O God, we call to you.

*Wounds of the past remain, affecting all we do.

Facing our lives, we need your love so much.

Here in this community, heal us by your touch.

2. Out of the depths of fear, O God, we speak.

Breaking the silences, the searing truth we seek.

Safe among friends, our grief and rage we share.

Here in this community, hold us in your care.

3. God of the loving heart, we praise your name.

Dance through our lives and loves; anoint with Spirit flame.

Your light illumines each familiar face.

Here in this community, meet us with your grace.

**Ruth Duck has provided the following words that may be substituted for those who are seriously ill:*

Free us from fear of death, our faith and hope re-new

or, for those who have been abused:

Wounds of a-buse re-main, af-fect-ing all we do

Words, Ruth Duck, 1988

Tune, Robert J. Batastini, 1994

Words Copyright 1988,

Tune Copyright 1994 by G.I.A Publications Inc.

One-License No. A-738474

return to bulletin



Closing Hymn #2 Glory, Glory, Hallelujah

1. Glory, glory hallelujah, since I laid my burdens down.
Glory, glory hallelujah, since I laid my burdens down.
2. I feel better, so much better, since I laid my burdens down.
I feel better, so much better, since I laid my burdens down.
3. Feel like shouting “Hallelujah” since I laid my burdens down.
Feel like shouting “Hallelujah” since I laid my burdens down.
4. I am dancing Miriam’s dance now, since I laid my burdens down.
I am dancing Miriam’s dance now, since I laid my burdens down.
5. I am climbing Jacob’s ladder, since I laid my burdens down.
I am climbing Jacob’s ladder, since I laid my burdens down.
6. Every round goes higher and higher, since I laid my burdens down.
Every round goes higher and higher, since I laid my burdens down.

[return to bulletin](#)

*African-American Spiritual
Arr. Joyce Finch Johnson, 1992
Arrangement Copyright, 1992 The Pilgrim Press
One-License No. A-738474*

