



First Congregational United Church of Christ May 12, 2024



Third Sunday of Easter

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

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

Musician: **Francie Beaster** Choir Director: **Ann Russ**

Peace Candle Lighter: **Byron Aldrich** Liturgist: **Carol Winter**

Greeter: **Mike Carlson** Usher:

Computer Operator: **Nina McCluer** Video Camera Operator: **Tom Yuhasey**

Coffee-Hour Host: **Linda Noble**

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300 West 2nd Street, Grand Marais, MN 55604



Gathering Music

Words of Welcome

Prelude

Words to Enter Worship (based upon Psalm 1)

One: Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that the sinners tread, or sit in the seat of the scoffers.

***Many:* But their delight is in the law of the LORD, and on the law they meditate day and night.**

One: They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper.

***Many:* The plans of the wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.**

One: Therefore the plans of the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor acts of sin in the congregation of the righteous.

***Many:* For the LORD watches of the ways of righteousness, but the way of the wicked will perish.**

Opening Hymn #11 Bring Many Names

Words of Lament

God who holds us like a child, too many mothers are grieving the death of their children and too many children are grieving the death of their parents in places of war and slavery still raging on this world. Rise, God who birthed this world, rise and bring your children to safety, turn the weapons of war into gardening utensils and fear into compassion. In the name of Mother Mary, Amen.

Time of Silence

Words of Poetry and Lighting of 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.


MOTHERS MENDING

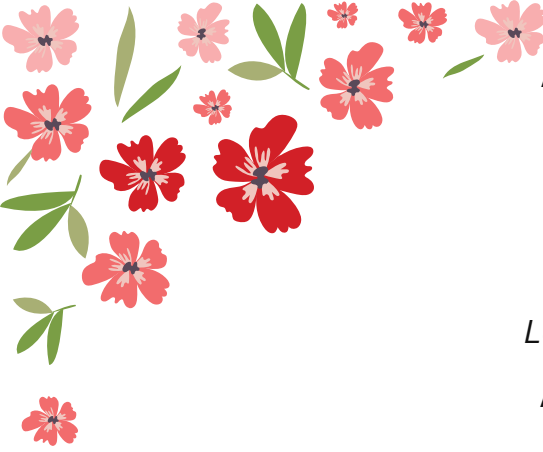
After the tussle—or would you call it

a clash?—we stitch the torn uniforms

you men bring home.

Little needle, glint and glide ...





After the cut—or would you call it
a gash?—we stitch the torn skin
you men bring in.

Little needle, glint and glide.

Lead this thread to heal and hide ...

After the war—or should we call it
murder—we stitch the shrouds
you men wear now.

Little needle, glint and glide.

Lead this thread to heal and hide.

*Never ask us to explain
why you left us here in pain.*

by Kim Staffard

Passing of the Peace

Scripture Readings

1st Scripture Mark 12:18-27

18 Some Sadducees, who say there is no resurrection, came to him and asked him a question, saying, **19** “Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man’s brother dies, leaving a wife but no child, the man shall marry the widow and raise up children for his brother. **20** There were seven brothers; the first married and, when he died, left no children; **21** and the second married the widow and died, leaving no children; and the third likewise; **22** none of the seven left children. Last of all the woman herself died. **23** In the resurrection whose wife will she be? For the seven had married her.”

24 Jesus said to them, “Is not this the reason you are wrong, that you know neither the scriptures nor the power of God? **25** For when they rise from the dead, they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven. **26** And as for the dead being raised, have you not read in the book of Moses, in the story about the bush, how God said to him, ‘I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob’? **27** He is God not of the dead, but of the living; you are quite wrong.”

Children’s Message God of the living

Choir “Gather us In“

Message Whose wife shall she be?



Musical Reflections

Communion Hymn #349 | Come with Joy

Communion

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

Our Time of Giving

We acknowledge the many ways in which those who support our ministry.

Many give the weekly, monthly, or yearly pledges and offerings.

Many give of their time and talent in our church and throughout our community. We are grateful for all. Thank you.

Doxology NCH #785

*We give you but yours own,
What-e'er the gift may be,
All that we have is yours a-lone,
We give it grateful-ly.*

News of God at Work in our Congregation & Community

Closing Hymn #427 God Made from One Blood

Benediction

Sending Music

Families held in Prayer for May:

Becky Batrol, Sally Dunn, Art & Beth Kidd, Mihaela Sturm, Dave Steckelberg, Eric, Martha, Joe & Rafe Williams

Organization to Pray For:

Sheriff's Department, Search and Rescue, Fire Departments, EMS, Border Patrol, State Highway Patrol

*Happy
Mother's
Day*



Announcements



Prayer List: Family of Bev Denyes, Sarah, Rhonda Silence, Vicki Biggs-Anderson, Paulette Anholm, Mike Carlson, Sally Dunn, All Victims of Gun Violence, Immigrants and Refugees, Countries of Congo Ukraine, Sudan, Israel/Palestine, and Planet Earth.

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

Measure of our Faithfulness:

The First Congregational UCC adopted a 2024 Budget at the Annual Meeting on 28 January 2024, showing a need for a yearly income of \$175,834.

After Eighteen weeks, the Budget Donations and Income should be \$60,865.61.
After Eighteen weeks of 2024, the actual donations and income reached \$69,142.44.

-Kevin R. LeVoir, Treasurer

This Week at the Church

Sunday, May 12 -Happy Mother's Day!

9:30 AM - Choir Practice (SA)

10:30 AM – 7th Sunday of Easter – *On this Sunday we will be exploring the story of the Sadducees in an argument with Jesus. They challenge Jesus' theology and understanding of resurrection (which they proclaim cannot happen) and they use a woman who married seven brothers to make their point. This isn't a love story, but one of subjugation and ownership. How does Jesus answer this and how do we view this today?*

Fellowship to Follow

2:0 PM – Worship at Care Center

Monday, May 13

2:00 PM-6:00 PM - Piano Lessons (SA)

3:00 PM-5:00 PM – Food Shelf (LL)

6:00 PM – Pride Committee (CCHE)

7:00 PM – Al-Anon (FS)

Tuesday, May 14

12:00 PM – Group Music Class (SA)

2:00 PM – Narrative Lectionary Study (ZO)

2:00 PM – 6:00 PM – Piano Lessons (SA)

5:00 PM – Board of Directors Meeting (ZO)

7:00 PM – Planetary Healing: One Being at a Time (FS)

Wednesday, May 15

2:00 PM – 6:00 PM – Piano Lessons (SA)

6:00 PM – Sing-along (N)

Pastor Enno is on vacation until May 29th

Thursday, May 16

10:00 AM – Tai Chi (SH)

12:00 PM – Women's AA (FS)

2:00 PM – 6:00 PM – Piano Lessons (SA)

3:30-5:30 PM – Cook County Public Health (MR)

Friday, May 17

7:00 AM – AA (FS)

8:00 AM – Harbor Watch (Java Moose)

2:00 PM – 6:00 PM – Piano Lessons (SA)

7:30 PM – AA (FS)

Saturday, May 18

10:00 AM – 2:00 PM – Piano Lessons

10:00 AM – 2:00 PM – Spring Work Day (outside)

Sunday, May 19

9:30 AM – Choir Practice (SA)

10:30 AM – Pentecost Sunday - *On this Sunday, we lift up the day that the Holy Spirit poured upon the apostles and woke up everyone in Jerusalem to the joy of something new taking place. Rev. Rolf Morck will be leading worship as Pastor Enno is on vacation.*

Fellowship to Follow





New Congregations

How can we start new congregations? Through the Strengthen the Church Offering, people around our country can help support new congregations. These emerging churches receive "CASA Grants" or Congregational Assessment, Support, and Advancement Grants. Pastor Ali Lopez Valcarcel received a CASA Grant and coaching for her effort to start the United Church of Christ Rio Grande Valley, also known as Proyecto RGV.

Funds helped provide tools for the ministry, such as a place to gather, support for a pastor, and sound equipment. It also supports outreach to migrants on both sides of the Rio Grande.

A community leader reflected on this vital work. "The UCC RGV has been able to establish a visual presence of Christ and become a voice for compassion and justice in the Rio Grande Valley."

"The CASA Grant gave us our start," explains Pastor Ali Lopez Valcarcel. The grant represents support coming into the Rio Grande Valley from congregations and people across the United Church of Christ. "It means so much that the wider United Church of Christ believes in us. It encourages me as a pastor and person committed to this work. People believe in us! And it creates a level of accountability. People count on us!" In September 2023, UCC Rio Grande Valley held its inaugural service. The service brought together Latino cultural and spiritual traditions in a unique way that allowed people to use all their senses to engage in worship. This past October, UCC Rio Grande Valley led an ecumenical vigil for Kimberly Avila. Kimberly, a transgender sibling, went missing five years ago from Brownsville, TX.

The Avila family thanked UCC Rio Grande Valley for leading the effort to bring light to Kimberly's disappearance, as the local authorities have done little to help bring Kimberly home.

An Open and Affirming, Immigrant-Welcoming Congregation is forming in Texas because generous people support the Strengthen the Church Offering. Think what more we can do together!

**Through the Strengthen the Church Offering,
we help support the work of conferences and the
national setting as we become a multi-racial/
multi-cultural church.**



Opening Hymn #11 Bring Many Names

1. Bring many names, beautiful and good, celebrate, in
parable and story, holiness in glory, living, loving God.
Hail and Hosanna! bring many names! great, living God!

2. Strong mother God, working night and day, planning the
wonders of creation, setting each equation, genius at play:
Hail and Hosanna, strong mother God!

3. Warm father God, hugging every child, feeling all the
strains of human living, caring and forgiving till we're reconciled:
Hail and Hosanna, warm father God!

4. Old, aching God, grey with endless care, calmly piercing
evil's new disguises, glad of good surprises, wiser than despair:
Hail and Hosanna, old aching God!

5. Young, growing God, eager,
on the move, saying no to falsehood and
unkindness,
crying out for justice,
giving all you have:
Hail and Hosanna,
young, growing God!

6. Great, living God, never fully known,
joyful darkness far beyond our seeing,
closer yet than breathing,
everlasting home:
Hail and Hosanna,
great, living God!

*Tune: WESTCHASE 9.10.11.9.
Carlton Young, 1989
One-License No. A-738474*

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Hymn #349 | Come With Joy

1. I come with joy, a child of God, forgiven, loved, and
free, The life of Jesus to recall, in
love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.

2. I come with Christians far and near to find, as all are
fed, The new community of love in
Christ's communion bread, in Christ's communion bread.

3. As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud division
ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and
strangers now are friends, and strangers now are friends.

4. And thus we meet, and better know the Presence, ever
near, And join our hearts and sing with joy that
Christ is risen here, that Christ is risen here.

5. Together met, together bound, in friendship we will
stay, And go with joy to love the world and
live the way we pray, and live the way we pray.

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Tune :DOVE OF PEACE 8.6..8.6.6.

Southern Harmony, 1835

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Closing Hymn #427 God Made from One Blood

1. God made from one blood all the families of earth,
the circles of nurture that raise us from birth,
Companions who join us to work through each stage
of childhood and youth and adulthood and age.

2. We turn to you, God with our thanks and our tears
for all of the families we've known through the years,
The intimate networks on whom we depend
of parents and partners and children and friends.

3. Through families we've tasted the value of trust
and felt what it means to be loving and just,
Yet families have also betrayed their best goals,
mistreating their members and bruising their souls.

4. Help families in all of their various forms
to face with integrity struggles and storms;
Grant peace to our homes that will nurture the bud
of peace for the families you made from one blood.

Tune: ST.DENIO 11.11.11.11.

*Adapt. from a Welsh ballad in John Roberts'
Caniadaeth y Cysegr, 1839*

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