

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
United Church of Christ
July 25, 2021

Ministry of the Acolyte

Gathering Music

“Lord, Speak to Me”

Lord, speak to me that I may speak
In living echoes of Thy tone.
As Thou hast sought, so let me seek
Your erring children, lost and lone.

Oh, teach me, Lord, that I may teach
The precious truths Thou dost impart.
And wing my words that they may reach
The hidden depths of many a heart.

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Prayer

Prelude

Responsive Reading Psalm 145:10-18, 21

One: I will speak of the glory of your kingdom, O God;
I will tell of your awesome power.

**All: I will tell everyone of your mighty deeds,
the splendor of your kingdom.**

One: Your reign is an everlasting reign, O God;
you rule through all generations.

**All: You are faithful in all that you do for us;
you are gracious in all your deeds,**

One: for you uphold all who are falling;
you raise up all who are bowed down.

**All: The eyes of all that live look to you;
you give them their food in due season;**

One: you open your hand; you satisfy
the desire of every living thing.

**All: O God, you are just in all your ways;
you are kind in all your doings.**

One: You are near to all who call on you,
to all who call on you in truth.

**All: My mouth will speak your praise, O God;
all flesh will bless your holy name
forever and ever. Amen.**

*Hymn #11 “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

Come, thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise His name I'm fixed upon it name of God's redeeming love.

Hitherto thy love has blessed me; thou has brought me to this place.
And I know thy hand will bring me safely home by thy good grace.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger, bought me with his precious blood.

Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart, O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.

We Lift Up Our Joys and Concerns
Pastoral Prayer
the Lord's Prayer (trespasses)

Special Music

We Dedicate our Gifts
*Doxology
*Offering prayer

Scripture Ephesians 3:14-21

*Hymn “Rise Up, O Church of God”

Rise up, O Church of God! Have done with lesser things;
Give heart and mind and soul and strength to serve the King of kings.

Rise up, O Church of God! His kingdom tarries long;
Bring in the day of brotherhood and end the night of wrong.

Rise up, O sons of God! The Church for you doth wait,
Her strength unequal to her task, rise up, and make her great!

Lift high the cross of Christ! Tread where His feet have trod;
As foll'wers of the Son of Man, rise up, O Church of God!

Sermon “abundantly far more
than all we can ask or imagine”

*Hymn

“Trust and Obey”

When we walk with the Lord in the light of his word,
what a glory he sheds on our way!
While we do his good will, he abides with us still,
and with all who will trust and obey.

Refrain: Trust and obey, for there's no other way
to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.

Not a shadow can rise, not a cloud in the skies,
But his smile quickly drives it away;
Not a doubt or a fear, not a sigh or a tear,
Can abide while we trust and obey. [Refrain]

Not a burden we bear, not a sorrow we share,
but our toil he doth richly repay;
not a grief or a loss, not a frown or a cross,
but is blest if we trust and obey. [Refrain]

But we never can prove the delights of his love
until all on the altar we lay;
for the favor he shows, for the joy he bestows,
are for them who will trust and obey. [Refrain]

Then in fellowship sweet we will sit at his feet,
or we'll walk by his side in the way;
what he says we will do, where he sends we will go;
never fear, only trust and obey. [Refrain]

*Benediction

*Response “Lord, Speak to Me”

Oh, fill me with Thy fullness, Lord,
Until my very heart o'erflows
In kindling thought and glowing word,
Thy love to tell, Thy praise to show.

Oh, use me, Lord, use even me,
Just as Thou wilt, and when, and where
Until Thy blessed face I see,
Thy rest, Thy joy, Thy glory share.

Postlude

