



Every Harvest
is Different...

Sustaining Compassion

10.2.2022



Welcome!

We are glad that you chose to join us for worship this morning. We hope that whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you will feel welcome here.

Guide to the bulletin: As you follow along in our worship service today, here are a few cues for using this bulletin. An asterisk (*) indicates that those gathered are invited to rise in body and/or spirit. Text printed in **BOLD** in the bulletin indicates everyone says them together. **NCH** is the New Century Hymnal in the holder by your pew chair.

Children: Children are always welcome here. If you would like to have your younger children (ages 0-4) taken care of during the service, we have a nursery available at 9:30 a.m. To better serve members, friends, and visitors, as well as our staff, we ask that you use the [SignUpGenius link](#) in the eNews to sign-up your child(ren) each week. If no one is signed up for the nursery room on a particular Sunday, staff will not be present, but the room will still be available to families. If you prefer, your children are welcome to stay with you through the worship service, or they may attend our Sunday School.

You can read more about today's activities at Memorial UCC in the announcements on the last page of the bulletin.

GATHERING TOGETHER

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

***Call to Worship¹**

One: Your people are waiting, oh God

All: For tides to turn towards justice.

One: Your people are working, oh God—

All: Loving each other amidst climate collapse and violent systems.

One: Hear our pleading question echoing through generations—

All: *How long?*

One: Answer us with hope.

All: Join us with courage.

One: Set your people completely and joyfully free.

***Opening Prayer**

Ancient wisdom, undo within us ways we add to our own suffering. Instead of isolation, nudge us towards connection. Instead of cynicism, awaken us to the wonder. Instead of unkind self-talk, fill our inner thoughts with compassion. Instead of perfectionism, make vivid our holy enoughness. For our own healing ripples out into our relationships. And our relationships create the world to come. Amen.

***Hymn NCH #519** *Not My Brother, nor My Sister* vs 1 & 4

Not my brother, nor my sister, but it's me, O God,
Standing in the need of prayer; Not my brother, nor my sister,
but it's me, O God, standing in the need of prayer. *refrain*

Refrain: It's me, it's me, O God, standing in the need of prayer.
It's me, it's me, O God, standing in the need of prayer.

¹ Adapted from Bolton, Rev. Molly, "enfleshed: Liturgy That Matters," enfleshed, October 2, 2022, <https://enfleshed.com/>.

**Not the stranger, nor my neighbor, but it's me, O God,
Standing in need of prayer; not the stranger, nor my neighbor,
But it's me, O God, standing in the need of prayer. *refrain***

HEARING THE WORD

First Bible Reading

Lamentations 1:1-6

Special Music

The Good News

Luke 17:5-10

Time with Children

Kaitlin Young

Reflection

Sustaining Compassion

Pastor Kris

SHARING OUR LIVES

Call to Prayer

Prayers of the People

During our online worship service, we invite you to type your prayers in the comments section on your screen. Or you can text prayers to Pastor Kris at 608-571-5870. Pastor Kris will collect the petitions and read them during the service. Know that prayers shared this day are public. If you have prayer request you would like to remain private, you may email them to: pastorkris@memorialucc.org

Prayer of Jesus

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

SHARING A MEAL

Come to God's Extravagant Table—wherever you are.

- *For those who will be receiving the sacrament in church, the elements will be prepared for you.*
- *Those who are blessing and receiving the sacrament at home, please prepare a slice or small loaf of bread, corn tortilla, or rice*

cake to share and a cup or small cups of juice — perhaps grape or cranberry — or wine, with or without alcohol.

Invitation to the Table²

Words of Remembering³

***Communion**

Please come forward. Those serving communion will place a piece of bread in your hand. You may eat the bread right away, or pick up one of the cups and eat the bread with juice or wine. The grape juice is white; the wine is red.

Allergy-free wafers are available. If you are worshipping at home, you may serve yourself. Or, if you are with others consider serving each other.

All are welcome at this meal.

Prayer of Thanksgiving⁴

Pastor Kris: On this World Communion Sunday as Christians around the globe gather around Christ's Table may we remember our Oneness—

All: Thank you, Jesus, for the opportunity to remember you in the ordinary things of our lives. When we eat our daily bread, rice, tortilla, or potato, we remember how you shared what you had with your friends, breaking yourself open. When we drink from the fruits of our harvest, we are reminded of how you continually bless us with your teachings; our chipped and well-used cups overflow. Amen.

GOING OUT TO THE WORLD

Song for Going Out NCH #391 *In the Midst of New Dimensions

verses 1, 2, & 3

In the midst of new dimensions, in the face of changing ways,

² Adapted from *A Wee Worship Book* (Glasgow: Wild Goose Publications, 2010), 95

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⁴ from *Parables, Prayers, and Promises: Daily Devotions on Jesus* (UCPH, 2016)

Who will lead the pilgrim peoples wandering in their separate ways? *Refrain*

Refrain

**God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar,
We your people, ours the journey now and ever, now and
ever, now and evermore.**

**Through the flood of starving people, warring factions and
despair,**

**Who will lift the olive branches? Who will light the flame of
care? *Refrain***

**As we stand a world divided by our own self-seeking schemes,
Grant that we, your global village, might envision wider
dreams. *Refrain***

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

Worship Leaders: Jonathan Schroerlucke (Dir. of Music), Jeff Darwin (Pianist), Rebecca Malke (Dir. of Faith Development), and Pastor Kris Gorton

Ushers: Steve Gorton and John Rosch

Readers: Kaitlin Young and John Rosch

Communion Preparation: Janine Bessemer

Media Room: TBD

Camera Tech: Aidan Oebser

Fellowship Hosts: TBD

Memorial UCC's ONE LICENSE for streaming: #A-711042

Today After Worship: ZOOM CONVERSATIONS! Over the summer, on the first Sunday of the month, Pastor Kris has been hosting Fellowship with those who worship with us on Zoom. Bring your own coffee, milk and/or donuts! All you need to do is to stay "in" Zoom as the service ends (don't click "leave meeting").

Refreshments and Conversation: Today following worship, you are invited to stay for conversations and refreshments in the Fellowship Hall. Worship generally runs until around 10:30 a.m. or shortly after. Sunday School also runs until about 10:30 a.m. If the service goes over, students will rejoin you in worship. If it goes under, you are free to go to fellowship until Sunday School ends.

Memorial's COVID Protocols: With prayerful consideration of the health and wellness of the members and friends of the congregation our current **COVID protocols are:**

- **Wearing a mask in the building is optional.** Anyone may choose to wear a mask at any time. Please remember that some individuals wear a mask even if they are fully vaccinated. A face mask can be viewed as a sign of care and concern for oneself and others. Please respect people's choices and privacy. We have **KN95 and medical masks available** by the church office for those who wish to wear one.
- **Masks are optional for Sunday School youth and teachers.**
- **Masks are also optional in the nursery area.**

Hearing Loop and Listening Devices: For those who have hearing aids, Memorial UCC has a t-coil compatible hearing loop. Listening devices are also available for people who are hard-of-hearing. See an usher if you need assistance.

Bathrooms: There are two bathrooms near the main entrance of the church. A third, Gender Neutral and Accessible bathroom is in the hallway by the nursery. If you need assistance finding the restrooms, an usher will be happy to help you!

Want to Know More About Us? Pastor Kris would be happy to set up a time to chat further. Feel free to contact her at pastorkris@memorialucc.org. You don't need to be a formal member to get involved here. There is a lot of information on our website at www.memorialucc.org. You can also follow us on Facebook (@FitchburgMemorialUCC), Twitter (@MemUCC), or join our Facebook group Memorial UCC: Ever-Widening Circles.



Giving Options—Ever-Widening Opportunities:

Checks can be mailed directly to the church or dropped off during our morning office hours Tuesday through Friday. Indicate in the memo line whether the giving is to Memorial operating costs or help to our community wide nonprofit partners.

Memorial UCC also offers an opportunity for you to give via PayPal! You can give securely via charge card, debit card, and direct withdrawal donations. Giving online through PayPal is fast and secure, and you do not even need to have a PayPal account to use the service to make one-time or recurring donations. Visit memorialucc.org and click on the "donate" button in the lower, right-hand corner to make your gift.

Thank you to those who regularly give electronically. Checks can be mailed directly to the church. Indicate in the memo line whether the giving is to Memorial operating costs or help to our community wide nonprofit partners. If you are interested in our monthly automatic withdrawal system, please email Cathy Halpin at halpincjo@gmail.com and she will get you signed up.