

September 1, 2024

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 am



Imagine . . .
a world where
everyone has “enough”.



Welcome Visitors

Guide to the bulletin: An asterisk (*) indicates an invitation to rise in body and/or spirit. Text printed in **BOLD** indicates everyone says them together. **NCH** is the New Century Hymnal next to your pew chair.

Children: Children are always welcome here. We know youth grow – in the love of God and the love of others – when they have opportunities to worship in community. That is why we are excited to have children of all ages with us throughout the service on the first Sunday of each month. On other Sundays throughout the summer, children are invited to attend Sunday Funday following the Message for All—though they are still welcome in worship. If the youth in your family would like to stay in worship, there are a variety of quiet activities and fidgets the youth (and adults!) can do available by the sanctuary doors. There is also a [Prayer Ground](#) set up at the front of the sanctuary. There are several quiet activities prepared for children. We know many of us need to wiggle a bit to be comfortable. Kids do too!!! Adults are welcome to sit in this area as well! #ChildofGod. You and/or your children are welcome to get up during the service to select something to do. If you want to have your younger children (ages 0-4) taken care of during the service, we have a nursery available at 9:30 am.

GATHERING TOGETHER

Prelude

I Come with Joy

arr: by John Carter

Welcome and Community Connections

***Opening Song**

Enter, Rejoice, and Come In

NCH 73, all 5 verses

***Call to Worship¹**

One: A Mystery Beyond us calls to us.

All: A Beauty from deep within beckons.

One: Our busy minds can't perceive it.

All: Our human traditions can't contain it.

One: But it calls to us and we must answer.

All: It rises in us like a song, and we must sing.

One: So, Holy One, we gather to worship you.

All: We gather to listen and wonder and blossom with your grace. Amen.

***Prayer of Confession**

Pastor Kris: Friends in Christ, we seek to be in harmony with God,
who desires truth in the inward being.

All: We confess what is within us is a mix of love and fear.

Pastor Kris: God, open to us our inward lives,
that we may see clearly, and be made new.

All: Help us see clearly what within us is born of love, and what is born of our wants and fears. By your
grace transform our inner desires, that what flows from our hearts may be love and healing, and the
grace of Christ.

Moment of Silent Prayer

All: Amen

***Hymn**

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

NCH 1 (vss 1, 2 & 3)

HEARING THE WORD

First Bible Reading

Song of Solomon 2: 8-13

Special Music

Can't Change You

by Kelly Jetzer

The Good News

Mark 6: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Message for All

Pastor Kris

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.**

¹ 1. Steve Garnaas-Holmes, "OT 22 – 15th Sunday after Pentecost," OT 22 – 15th Sunday after Pentecost – Unfolding Light, December 1, 2009, <https://unfoldinglight.net/2009/12/01/ot-22-pe-13/>.

After the Message for All, children may sit with their family or at the Prayer Ground.

Reflection

Pastor Kris

SHARING OUR LIVES

Call to Prayer

In Our Prayers

Sing! 125

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

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 Table and Words of Remembering²

Musical Interlude

Let US Break Bread Together

Arr: by Michel Larkin

***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 bread is gluten free. The grape juice is white; the wine is red. If you are worshiping at home, you may serve yourself. Or, if you are with others consider serving each other. All are welcome at this meal.

Prayer of Thanksgiving³

Pastor Kris: Nourished by the Bread and Juice to imagine New Things and share the Good News, let us give thanks...

All: Gracious God, we thank you for this mystery in which you have given yourself to us. By your Spirit may the grace that is in our hearts shine out through our words and actions and all our choices. Send us into the world to share your love for the sake of the redemption of the world, in the name and the Spirit of Christ. Amen.

GOING OUT TO THE WORLD

***Song for Going Out**

Lord of the Dance

all 5 verses

***Benediction**

Postlude

Tis the Gift to be Simple

arr: by Michael Larkin

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

³ 1. Steve Garnaas-Holmes, "OT 22 – 15th Sunday after Pentecost," OT 22 – 15th Sunday after Pentecost – Unfolding Light, December 1, 2009, <https://unfoldinglight.net/2009/12/01/ot-22-pe-13/>.

Worship Leaders: Jonathan Schroerlucke (Dir. of Music), Linda Brant (Pianist), Pastor Kris Gorton and Pastor Peter Morris

Readers: Merry Spangler and Jill Carlson

Ushers: Roger Elver and Jeanne Prueher

Communion Preparation: Carol Lyon

Media Room: Jeffrey Lipford

Fellowship: Karen Bryant

Memorial UCC uses photographs and video for social media communication with our members and friends. If someone does not wish to be photographed or in a video, ushers will help them find a seat out of camera view.

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



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 gladly help you



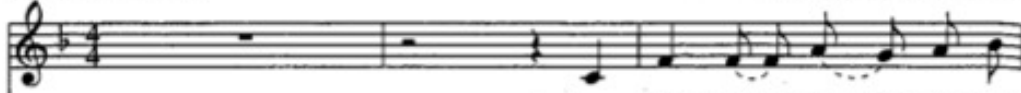
Giving Options—Ever-Widening Opportunities: Checks can be mailed directly to the church or dropped off during office hours. Please indicate any special designation in the memo line. You can give securely via PayPal with your credit card, debit card, or direct withdrawals. Giving online through PayPal is fast and secure, and you do not need a PayPal account to make one-time or recurring donations. Visit memorialucc.org and click the "giving" link in the upper right-hand corner or scan the QR code here. If you are interested in monthly automatic withdrawals, please email Cathy Halpin at halpincjo@gmail.com, and she will get you signed up.

Want to Know More About Us? Co-pastors Kris and Peter would be happy to set up a time to chat further. Feel free to contact either of them at pastorkris@memorialucc.org or pastorpeter@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.

I Danced in the Morning

Sydney Carter, 1963

American Shaker melody
Harm. Sydney Carter, 1963



1. I danced in the morn - ing when the
2. I danced for the scribe and the
3. I danced on the Sab - bath and I
4. I danced on a Fri - day when the
5. They cut Me down and I



world was be - gun, And I danced in the moon and the
Phar - i - see, But they would not dance and they
cured the lame; The ho - ly peo - ple
sky turned black; It's hard to dance with the
leap up high; I am the life that will



stars and the sun, And I came down from heav - en and I
would not fol - low Me; I danced for the fish - er - men, for
said it was a shame. They whipped and they stripped and they
dev - il on your back. They bur - ied My bod - y and they
nev - er, nev - er die; I'll live in you if you'll



danced on the earth; At Beth - le - hem I had My birth.
James and John; They came with Me and the dance went on.
hung Me high, And left Me there on a cross to die.
thought I'd gone: But I am the dance and I still go on.
live in Me: I am the Lord of the Dance, said He.

Refrain

Dance, then, wher - ev - er you may be; I am the Lord of the

Dance, said He, And I'll lead you all, wher - ev - er you may be,

And I'll lead you all in the dance, said He.

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

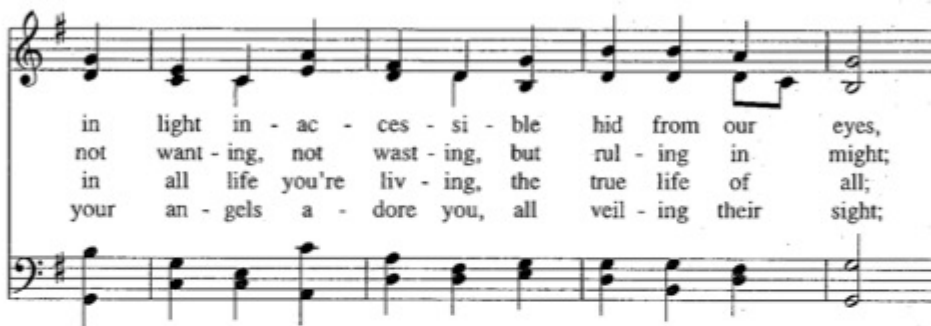
1

Walter C. Smith, 1867; alt.

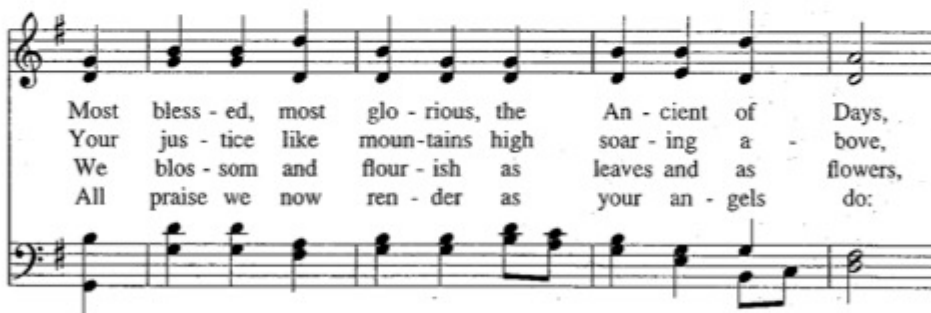
1 Tim. 1:17; Ps. 36:6



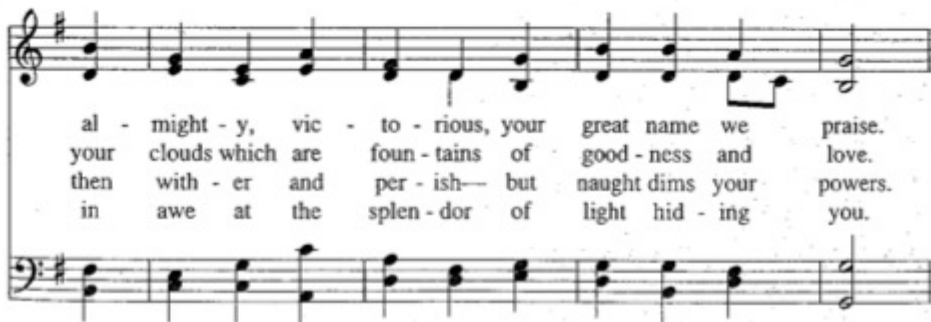
1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3 Your life is life - giv - ing— to both great and small;
 4 So per - fect your glo - ry, so bril - liant your light,



in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 not want - ing, not wast - ing, but rul - ing in might;
 in all life you're liv - ing, the true life of all;
 your an - gels a - dore you, all veil - ing their sight;



Most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 Your jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove,
 We blos - som and flour - ish as leaves and as flowers,
 All praise we now ren - der as your an - gels do:



al - might - y, vic - to - rious, your great name we praise.
 your clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 then with - er and per - ish— but naught dims your powers.
 in awe at the splen - dor of light hid - ing you.

Walter C. Smith, minister of the Free Church of Scotland and later moderator of the Assembly, wrote poetry as a retreat from work and to say what could not be fully expressed in the pulpit.

Tune: ST. DENIO 11.11.11.11.
 Adap. from a Welsh ballad in John Roberts' *Caniadaeth y Cywne* 1870

Enter, Rejoice, and Come In

73

Louise Ruspini; alt.

Ps. 100

Unison C FM7 C C7 FM7 Dm7 G7 C

1 En - ter, re - joice, and come in. En - ter, re - joice, and come in.
 2 O - pen your - self to the song. O - pen your - self to the song.
 3 O - pen your hearts ev - ery - one. O - pen your hearts ev - ery - one.
 4 Don't be a - fraid of some change. Don't be a - fraid of some change.
 5 En - ter, re - joice, and come in. En - ter, re - joice, and come in.

C7 FM7 Dm7 G7 C F Em7 A7 Dm7sus4 Dm7 G7 C

To - day will be a joy - ful day; en - ter, re - joice, and come in.

This song, based on Psalm 100, became popular in the 1970s in the United States. It works equally well with organ, piano, or guitar accompaniment.

Tune: ENTER, REJOICE 7.7.8.7.
 Louise Ruspini
 Harm. The New Century Hymnal, 1993

RESPOND

125

In Our Prayers

O Lau Tatalo

$\text{♩} = 88$
Cmaj⁷ Am⁷/G Cmaj⁷ Am⁷/G Cmaj⁷ Dm⁷ G

In our prayers,
O lau ta - ta - lo,

Dm⁷ G C Em/G C Cmaj⁷ Dm⁷ G

in our hearts,
Ma - i lo'u lo - to.

in our prayers,
O lau ta - ta - lo,

Dm⁷ G C Em/G C C⁷ F F/C

in our hearts,
Ma - i lo'u lo - to.

God in your grace,
Le A - tua Ma - ma -

F F/C Em⁷ Am⁷ Em⁷ Am⁷/G Dm

hear our prayers,
na, Ta - li - a ma - i,

God in your grace, O
Le A - tua Ma - ma - na A -

G Dm G⁷ Cmaj⁷ Am⁷/G Cmaj⁷ Am⁷/G C

God, hear our prayers,
-lo - fa, Ta - li - a ma - i.