

June 13, 2021
Order of Worship
Grinnell United Church of Christ

No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!

PRELUDE *My Strength and My Song* - Cesar Franck (1822-1890)
 Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer - John Hughes (1873-1932)

INVOCATION

Faithful God,
we come into Your presence with thanksgiving,
deeply grateful for the unfailing love and faithfulness
You have shown toward us, Your people.
When we call out to You, You answer.
When we are exhausted, You give us the strength to go on.
When we find ourselves in trouble,
You are there, standing beside us.

And so we come before You gratitude and praise,
offering You the worship of our hearts and lives.
Open our eyes to see and know You here among us;
open our ears to recognize Your voice. So that we might
live and work in the world as Your faithful disciples.

In the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

WELCOME

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The Peace of Christ be with you. ... And also with you.

(please remain in your pews and wave the peace to each other)

SCRIPTURE *Psalm 20 (Inclusive Bible); 2 Corinthians 5:6-17*

HYMN Vocalists: Jo Entwisle, Russ Leggett, Janis Peak, Sue Ramsey

NCH 386 *The Church's One Foundation*

Words: Samuel J. Stone, 1866; alt. Music: Samuel S. Wesley, 1864

The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ our Lord;
we are Christ's new creation by water and the word;

from heaven Christ came and sought us in love to set us free;
with precious blood Christ bought us for all eternity.

Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth,
one charter of salvation, one God, one faith, one birth,
one name together blessing, one holy food we share,
to one hope we are pressing, at one in work and prayer.

'Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of our war,
we wait the consummation of peace forevermore;
till with the vision glorious, our longing eyes are blessed,
and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

Yet we on earth have union with God, the Three-in-One,
and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won.
O happy ones and holy! God, give us grace that we,
like them, the meek and lowly, may live eternally.

SERMON *Mark 4:26-34*

SILENT REFLECTION

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS *We pray for health and strength for Pasha Buck, George Drake, Verlene Mitchell, Emily Pfitsch, Gayle and Lois Strickler, Wilma Vosburg, and all those in our community touched by or recovering from COVID 19.*

PASTORAL PRAYER

We may not be able to confront queens,
or challenge presidents;
We may not have the capacity to divert resources,
or uplift communities;
We may not have the voice to silence the noise of war,
or the words to negotiate peace between armies;
But, as we follow you, O Christ, we are able to do something.

And so, we pray that you would inspire us
to commit to and act on
the small difference we can make:
May we bring peace
through small acts of gentleness
and reconciliation;
May we bring wealth
through small contributions

and collaborations;
May we bring safety
through small acts of consideration
and acceptance;
May we bring wholeness
through small acts of care
and service.

And in the small ways, O God,
may our small difference make a big contribution
to your saving work in our world. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER (*Inclusive Version*) (*please pray silently*)

Blessed One, our Father and our Mother
Holy is your name.
May your love be enacted in the world.
May your will be done
On earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread
And forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us in the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For all that we do in your love,
and all that your love brings to birth,
and the fullness of love that will be
are yours, now and forever. Amen.

DOXOLOGY

HYMN PH 228 - *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*
Words: John Zundel, 1815-1882; Music: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heav'n, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art.
Visit us with thy salvation; enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into ev'ry troubled breast.
Let us all in thee inherit, let us find thy promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be.
End of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty, to deliver, let us all thy life receive.
Suddenly return, and never, never more they temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

Finish, then, thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be.
Let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee.
Changed from glory into glory, till in heav'n we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love and praise.

BENEDICTION

It takes little faith to see the sacred in the extraordinary.

To have faith the sacred is in the ordinary, though,
takes courage to believe the mundane can be enough;
that grace can emerge
even through the dull,
the slightly disappointing,
the not quite right,
not quite as we intended,
not really what we hoped;
the clumsy,
the awkward,
and the imperfect.

So let our act of faith be
to let what we do be enough.

Let what we do be enough... Amen.

POSTLUDE *Fugue in D Major* - G. F. Handel (1685-1759)

Invocation ~ Christine Longhurst, re:Worship

Pastoral Prayer ~ written by John van de Laar. Posted on his excellent **Sacredise.com** website.

Lord's Prayer ~ Copyright © 2003 Richard D. McCall, Associate Professor of Liturgy and Church Music, Episcopal Divinity School, Cambridge, Ma. Posted on the Worship Well website.

Benediction ~ written by Cheryl Lawrie, and posted on [hold this space]. <http://holdthisspace.org.au/>