

July 4, 2021
Order of Worship
Grinnell United Church of Christ

Liturgist: Anderson Schirm

Vocalists: Jo Entwisle, Russ Leggett, Jan Peak, Paula Middleton Schaefer, Judy Scheer, and Mary Smith

Organist: Kenneth Davis

Pastor: Rev. Jessica Margrave Schirm

As a safety precaution during COVID, please remain silent during the worship service (as in no congregant singing nor praying aloud). Thank you for helping to keep each other safe.

PRELUDE *This Is My Song* - Jean Sibelius (1865-1957)

INVOCATION

Lift your eyes to God:

in the highest heavens, we see your glory, Great Creator.

Reach out your hands to Jesus:

in the compassion of an enemy, we know your love, O Christ.

Feel the breath of the Spirit:

in our sinews and in our souls, the Spirit whispers hope.

Let us worship the God who reigns,

by entering the depths of our humanity

and setting the humble soaring on the wings of the Spirit

for the sake of eternity.

WELCOME

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

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The Peace of Christ be with you. ... *(silently)* And also with you.

SCRIPTURE *Psalm 48. Ezekiel 2:1-5*

HYMN - NCH 591 - *This Is My Song*

Words: Lloyd Stone, 1934

Music: Jean Sibelius, 1899

This is my song, O God of all the nations,

A song of peace for lands afar and mine;

This is my home, the country where my heart is;

Here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine:

But other hearts in other lands are beating
With hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.

My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,
And sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine;
But other lands have sunlight too, and clover,
And skies are everywhere as blue as mine:
O hear my song, O God of all the nations,
A song of peace for their land and for mine.

SERMON *Mark 6:1-6*

REFLECTIVE SILENCE

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

We pray for comfort and peace for:

The Vosburg Family: Wilma passed away on June 18th.

The Jones Family: Addison passed away on June 18th.

The Thomas Family (Plymouth Church in Des Moines): Frank passed away on June 20th. His work at Grinnell College and with the wider United Church of Christ touched many lives.

Oliva Wright and family: Oliva's brother Marion Reisetter passed away on June 25th.

We pray for health and strength for Pasha Buck, George Drake, Betty Anne Francis, Verlene Mitchell, Laura Nelson Lof, Emily Pfitsch, Gayle and Lois Strickler.

PASTORAL PRAYER

You know how stubborn we can be, Holy God.

You call us to serve others,

and we stay in the coolness of our own homes.

You would send us to where the hopeless live,

but we are reluctant to leave the comfort of our complacency.

You would feed us on the peace and joy of your word,

but we pull our chairs up to the tables of those who serve false promises.

Forgive us, Guiding God.

Transform our defiance into discipleship,

and our rejection of others into the resurrection

of welcoming all people as sisters and brothers in Christ.

Help us to love as faithfully as you have always loved us,

and send us forth to take the good news of Jesus Christ to everyone we meet.

Silent Prayers may be offered

We open our lips and confess our hearts.
God hears our words and make us new,
sending us out to bring hope and joy to all the world.
We hear the good news,
we believe the good news,
we will live out the good news.
Thanks be to God. 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.

GRATITUDE FOR OFFERING / DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God all creatures here below,
Praise God above ye heavenly hosts,
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.

HYMN - NCH 495 - *Called as Partners in Christ's Service*
Words: Jane Parker Huber, 1981
Music: John Zundel, 1855

Called as partners in Christ's service, Called to ministries of grace,
We respond with deep commitment Fresh new lines of faith to trace.
May we learn the art of sharing, Side by side and friend with friend,
Equal partners in our caring To fulfil God's chosen end.

Christ's example, Christ's inspiring, Christ's clear call to work and worth,
Let us follow, never faltering, Reconciling folk on earth.
Men and women, richer poorer, All God's people young and old,
Blending human skills together Gracious gifts from God unfold.

Thus new patterns for Christ's mission, In a small or global sense,
Help us bear each other's burdens, Breaking down each wall or fence.
Words of comfort, words of vision, Words of challenge, said with care,
Bring new power and strength for action, Make us colleagues, free and fair.

So God grant us for tomorrow Ways to order human life
That surround each person's sorrow With a calm that conquers strife.
Make us partners in our living, Our compassion to increase,
Messengers of faith, thus giving Hope and confidence and peace.

BENEDICTION

Go forth this morning, to greet the world at work,
as here, the Lord has greeted us in worship.
Go forth in the name of God the Creator,
whose awesome strength empowers us,
in the name of Christ the Redeemer,
whose tremendous love transforms us
and in the name of the Holy Spirit,
whose gentle presence guides us. Amen.

POSTLUDE *Fanfare* - Don Ignazio Cirri (1711-1787)

ATTENTION: For everyone's safety, please exit the building quietly and in a timely manner and reserve socializing for outside the church building.

WORSHIP RESOURCES

Invocation ~ written by Anita Monro and posted on the MAD-e-Lena blog. <http://mad-e-lena.blogspot.com/>

Pastoral Prayer ~ written by Thom Shuman (2006), and posted on Lectionary Liturgies. <http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.ca/> Visit that site for many other excellent lectionary-based worship resources.

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 ~ from a worship order prepared by Rev. Bob Gibson for the London Conference of the United Church of Canada. <http://www.londonconference.ca/>