

**August 8, 2021**  
**Order of Worship**  
**Grinnell United Church of Christ**

**Liturgist:** Terese Grant  
**Vocalist:** Shane Estes  
**Pianist:** Dot Anderson  
**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.*

**INVOCATION**

Only the hungry search for bread.  
Only the thirsty look for water.  
This is a place for those who are hungry and thirsty in spirit.

Only those who ache for meaning will pursue it.  
Only those who yearn for a deeper life will seek it.  
This is a place for those who ache and yearn for something more.

So let us come here today with our hunger and thirst,  
our unsatisfied longings, our heart-felt yearnings,  
and let the God of life satisfy our souls. Amen.

**WELCOME and PASSING OF THE PEACE**

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

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

**SCRIPTURE**     *Psalms 130; John 6:41-51*

**HYMN** NCH 26 *We Worship You, God*

Words: Robert Grant, 1833; Music: J. Michael Haydn (1737-1806)

1) We worship you, God; your power and your love  
Are blazoned abroad, around, and above:  
Our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,  
Pavilioned in splendor, and girded with praise.

2) We tell of your might, we sing of your grace,  
Whose robe is the light, whose canopy space.  
Your chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,  
And broad is your path on the wings of the storm.

3) The earth, with its store of wonders untold,  
Almighty, your power has founded of old,  
Established it fast by a changeless decree,  
And round it you cast, like a mantle, the sea.

4) Your bountiful care, what tongue can recite?  
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;  
It streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,  
and sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

5) Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,  
In you do we trust, nor find you to fail.  
Your mercies, how tender, how firm to the end,  
our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend!

**SERMON**            *Ephesians 4:25-5:2*

## **SILENT REFLECTION**

## **SPECIAL MUSIC**

## **SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS**

### ***We pray for comfort and peace for:***

*The Vosburg Family: Wilma passed away on June 18<sup>th</sup>.*

*The Jones Family: Addison passed away on June 18<sup>th</sup>.*

*The Thomas Family (Plymouth Church in Des Moines): Frank passed away on June 20<sup>th</sup>. His work at Grinnell College and with the wider UCC.*

*Oliva Wright and family: Oliva's brother Marion Reisetter passed away on June 25<sup>th</sup>.*

***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, Nancy Wolff.***

## **PASTORAL PRAYER**

○ Eternal One, whose message to us has always been that our relationship to you is inextricably related to how we treat our siblings, bend low your spirit this day and touch us with your power.

Wean us from our tendency to nurture perceived slights and to put hot coals to our anger.

Wean us from all tendencies to take advantage of others for personal gain.

Wean us from negativity and from becoming bitter whether or not we think we are justified in our feelings.

Wean us from the all too human and common tendency to gossip about others and to slander them in any way.

Wean us from carrying malice in our hearts and from giving in to anything that would poison relationships with others.

Make us over again, O gracious God.

Give us a consistent kindness and compassion for others. Keep us always tender hearted even when the world delivers difficult blows and setbacks to us. Teach us once again about your redeeming grace in order that we may learn, however slowly and however tentatively, how to forgive others. Teach us how to live abundantly into the future as victorious and expectant people, greeting each new day with eagerness and excitement. And indelibly remind us that we are among your forgiven and beloved community.

We present to you all who have special need of your grace today. Keep them in your gracious care and insofar as we are able use us to make their burdens lighter. Be with those who war and who are victims of war and grant to us a peaceful 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.

### **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 448 *Take My Life, God, Let It Be*

Words: Frances R. Havergal, 1874, alt; Music: Justin H. Knecht, 1797

- 1) Take my life, God, let it be consecrated, faithfully.  
Take my moments and my days, let them flow in ceaseless praise.
- 2) Take my spirit, let it move at the impulse of your love.  
Take my intellect and use all its powers as you choose.
- 3) Take my will; your will be done! Make your will and mine be one.  
Take my heart, and by your grace make of it your dwelling place.
- 4) Take my love and help it grow; let my loving overflow,  
Take me now and help me be part of Christ's community.

## **BENEDICTION**

May the love of God  
which gives life to the world, sustain you;  
May the bread of life, Jesus Christ,  
feed you with the food that endures to eternal life;  
May the power of the Holy Spirit  
nourish and strengthen you in faith. Amen.

## **POSTLUDE**

***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 Ann Siddall, and posted on the website of the Stillpoint Spirituality Centre. <http://www.stillpointsa.org.au/>

Pastoral Prayer ~ written by Richard Einerson, and posted on Richard J. Einerson: Prayers of the People. <http://www.richardeinerson.com/>

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 Moira Laidlaw, and posted on Liturgies Online. <http://www.liturgiesonline.com.au/>