



*"Hands, all together"*



**THE 13<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**A Service of the Word**

*June 28, 2020 ✦ 10:00 a.m.*

## The 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today, we are partaking of an online worship service prepared this spring for use all around our United Church of Christ during the coronavirus pandemic, created and led by the various Conference Ministers from the 36 UCC conferences around the country.

### GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit gathers us in unity on the first day, the day of Christ's resurrection*

Welcome to Storrs Congregational Church UCC      *The Rev. Matthew Emery, senior minister*

Welcome to Worship      *written by Kent Siladi, Southern New England Conf.*

Call to Worship      *written by Lynn Bunjak, Vermont Conf.*

*One:* When we feel isolated and alone, O God, your word comes to us:

***Many:* I will not leave you orphaned.**

*One:* When we face an uncertain future, the Bible reminds us:

***Many:* We walk by faith, not by sight.**

*One:* When we are scared and anxious, we hear your whisper,

***Many:* Be not afraid, for I am with you.**

*One:* We come to this time of worship remembering the promises of our God,  
strengthened in hope and saturated with holy Love.

***All:* Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Music — “Glorious” by MaMuse      *performed by Laura Keating*  
*a Member in Discernment with the Montana – Northern Wyoming Conference,*  
*and an M.Div. student at Pacific School of Religion, Berkeley, Calif.*

Oh what a day! Glorious! Gather 'round, there's nothing better than a friend.

Oh what a day! Glorious! The smell of rain has hitched a ride upon the wind.

I've got good friends to the left of me and good friends to my right.

Got the open sky above me and the earth beneath my feet.

Got a feeling in my heart that's singin' all in life is sweet. Oh what a day!

Oh, what a day! Glorious! All the clouds have gathered round the tops of trees.

Oh what a day! Glorious! Pitter patter, fallin' rain. I can't believe all that's green lifts up its leaves.

Singin' water come on in we've been waiting all these days.

Prayin' you would come to quench every yearnin' in our bones.

Water, life with you begins. Oh what a day!

Home is believing. Home has wings of faith.

Home is a clear river of perceiving all is well. This is a friendly mystery.

Oh, what a day! Glorious! Baby blue jay squawkin' in the cherry tree.

Oh, what a day! Glorious! Deep in the night we had a raccoon robbery.

Pitter patter little paws have left their footprints all around.

Pitter patter evidence some fruit has fallen to the ground.  
Pitter patter sings my heart at the thought of what's to come. Oh, what a day!  
Home is believing. Home has wings of faith.  
Home is a clear river of perceiving all is well. This is a friendly mystery.  
Oh, what a day! Glorious! Under the sky we slept last night just you and me.  
Oh, what a day! Glorious! The waning moon our cycle is almost complete.  
We've got good friends to the left of us and good friends to our right.  
Got the open sky above us and the earth beneath our feet.  
Never fear the birds are singin' even endings can be sweet. Oh, what a day!  
Never fear the birds are singin' even endings can be sweet. Oh, what a day!

## **Affirmation of Faith: The Statement of Faith of the United Church of Christ**

*in Spanish & English, in alternation*

*Creemos en Dios, el Espíritu Eterno,  
Padre de nuestro Señor Jesucristo y nuestro Creador;  
y de sus obras testificamos:*

*Dios llama los mundos para que existan,  
creó al ser humano a su imagen y semejanza,  
y puso ante la humanidad los caminos de la vida y la muerte.*

We believe in you, O God, Eternal Spirit,  
God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God,  
and to your deeds we testify:

You call the worlds into being,  
create persons in your own image,  
and set before each one the ways of life and death.

*Busca en su santo amor salvar a todas las personas de su desorientación y pecado.*

*Dios juzga al ser humano y a las naciones por medio de su justa voluntad  
declarada a través de los profetas y los apóstoles.*

*En Jesucristo, el hombre de Nazaret, nuestro Señor crucificado y resucitado,  
Dios ha venido  
y ha compartido nuestra suerte,  
venció el pecado y la muerte  
y reconcilió al mundo para sí mismo.*

You seek in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin.

You judge people and nations by your righteous will  
declared through prophets and apostles.

In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Savior,

you have come to us  
and shared our common lot,  
conquering sin and death  
and reconciling the world to yourself.

*Dios nos concedió el Espíritu Santo,  
que crea y renueva la iglesia de Jesucristo  
y une en un pacto de fidelidad a personas de todas las edades, idiomas y razas.*

*Dios nos llama como iglesia  
para que aceptemos el costo y la alegría del discipulado,  
para que seamos sus servidores al servicio del ser humano,  
para proclamar el evangelio a todo el mundo  
y resistir los poderes del maligno,  
para compartir el bautismo de Cristo, comer en su mesa,  
y unirnos a Jesús en su pasión y victoria.*

You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit,  
creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ,  
binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races.

You call us into your church  
to accept the cost and joy of discipleship,  
to be your servants in the service of others,  
to proclaim the gospel to all the world  
and resist the powers of evil,  
to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table,  
to join him in his passion and victory.

*Dios promete a toda persona que confía en Jesús  
el perdón de los pecados y la plenitud de su gracia,  
valor en la lucha por la justicia y la paz,  
su presencia en las tristezas y en las alegrías,  
y vida eterna en su reino que no tiene fin.*

*Bendición y honor, gloria y poder sean dados a Dios. Amén.*

You promise to all who trust you  
forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace,  
courage in the struggle for justice and peace,  
your presence in trial and rejoicing,  
and eternal life in your realm which has no end.

Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you. Amen.

**Mental Health Sunday**

*Brigit Stevens, Iowa, Nebraska, and South Dakota Conferences*

**WORD**

---

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song*

**A Time Especially for Children**

*written by Diane Weible, Northern California Nevada Conf.*

**Scripture Reading** — Acts 17:22-31

*proclaimed in Spanish & English, in alternation*

In Athens, Paul faces the challenge of proclaiming the gospel to Greeks who know nothing of either Jewish or Christian tradition. He proclaims that the “unknown God” whom they worship is the true Lord of heaven and earth who will judge the world with justice through Jesus, whom God has raised from the dead.

**Message** — “Things change. God doesn’t”

*Marilyn Kendrix, Southern New England Conf.*

**RESPONSE**

---

*We begin our lives of responding to the gospel in prayer and offering*

**Invitation to Generosity**

*written by Ginny Brown Daniel, Missouri Mid-South Conf.*

**OFFERTORY MUSIC**

*Composed by Jerome Hugs Sr., Performed by Josiah Hugs*

*A note from Josiah Hugs about the piece:*

The origin of the song comes from a time in my dad's life, Jerome Hugs, Sr., when he was at his lowest of lows and in the midst of his addiction. He cried out to God and he heard these words spoken to him in our language, the Crow language: "There is a higher road, This where I want you to come by my child, Tell the people my child, there is a higher road above, this is where I want you to come by my child, Some day you will come by this road to me."

**Pastoral Prayer**

*written by David Long-Higgins, Heartland Conf.*

## SENDING

---

*God blesses us and sends us forth in mission for the world*

**Music** — “I Believe” by Mark Miller      *performed by the Chancel Choir, Christ Church, Summit NJ*

“I believe in the sun even when it’s not shining.  
I believe in love even when I don’t feel it.  
I believe in God even when He is silent.”

— *Anonymous, found scratched into a wall  
at Auschwitz concentration camp*

**Benediction**      *written by John Dorhauer, General Minister & President, United Church of Christ*