



"Jesus said, 'Come after me and I will make you into fishers of people.'"



THE 3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
A Service of the Word

January 24, 2021 ✦ 10:00 a.m.

The 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Faith, hope, and love”

GATHERING

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

Prelude — “Aria” by Manz

Dr. Patricia Snyder

Welcome

Greeting

One: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Many: **And also with you.**

Call to Worship

One: *We gather to respond to the call of God’s love*

Many: **Thankful that someone cared enough to share this good news with us.**

One: *May we be compassionate enough to share this divine presence with others.*

Many: **Love, when shared, is not divided but multiplied.**

One: *Love, given away, is not diminished but expanded.*

Many: **May our gathering beckon and welcome those near and far to know the love of this divine presence.**

Hymn — “Will You Come and Follow Me”

this bulletin, pg. 6

Invocation

News from our Life Together

WORD

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

Refrain — “This Little Light of Mine”

LIGHT OF MINE

1 This lit-tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine;
oh, oh,

this lit-tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine;
oh,

this lit-tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine,
oh,

let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading — Book of Jonah 3:1-5, 10

The book of Jonah is a comedy starring a reluctant prophet who is given a one-sentence message: Nineveh will be destroyed in forty days. Much to Jonah's dismay, the people of Nineveh repent. The point of the story is to get the reader to wrestle with the question "On whom should God have mercy?"

Scripture Reading — Gospel of Mark 1:14-20

Before Jesus calls his first disciples, he proclaims a message that becomes known as the "gospel" or good news from God. God is ready to rule our lives. Those who realize this will respond with repentance and faith.

The Early Word

Lisa Haupt

*The **refrain** ("This Little Light of Mine" – music above) is repeated.*

Sermon — "Follow Me"

Rev. Debbie Pallatto-Fontaine

Before Jesus calls his first disciples, he proclaims a message that becomes known as "the gospel" or good news from God. God is ready to rule our lives. Those who realize this will respond with repentance and faith.

RESPONSE

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

Responding with our Gifts

Give online: Go to www.storrscongchurch.org and click the green "Give now..." button.

Text: Text "StorrsCongChurch" to 73256, followed by your gift amount (i.e. "StorrsCongChurch \$100").

Those participating via Zoom are welcome to submit prayer petitions (joys and concerns) via the Chat feature.

OFFERTORY MUSIC — "I Believe" by Mark Miller

Women of the Adult Choir

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 God is silent.

*-An inscription on the wall of a cellar,
written by Jews in hiding during WWII*

The Prayers of the People, *ending with* The Lord's Prayer

Many: 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 glory forever. Amen.

LITANY FOR COMMISSIONING A PASTORAL SEARCH

Invitation

Scripture Reading — The Word 1 Corinthians 12:4-12

Response

One: *There are different gifts.*

***Many:* But it is the same spirit who gives them.**

One: *Each is given gifts by the Spirit.*

***Many:* To be used for the common good.**

Address to the Committee Members

Covenant

Response

***Many:* We pledge, as a gathered community of faith, to be patient with you and to respect your need to be confidential in your task. We recognize that the work of our Search Committee is a difficult assignment and will take much effort. We pray for you and offer our support and words of encouragement throughout this time.**

These things we promise in the hope and belief that you will be obedient to the guidance of the Spirit as you seek a new pastor to minister with us.

SENDING

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

Hymn — “Jesus Calls Us”

this bulletin, pg. 7

Benediction

Postlude

Dr. Patricia Snyder

Following the postlude, the Zoom Meeting will remain open for those who wish to connect and chat—a bring-your-own-coffee “coffee hour”! We look forward to connecting with you!

726 Will You Come and Follow Me

The Summons

Capo 3: (D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (Asus) (A)
 F C7 Dm Gm7 Csus C

1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call your name?
 2 "Will you leave your-self be-hind if I but call your name?
 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call your name?
 4 "Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
 5 Lord, your sum-mons ech - oes true when you but call my name.

(D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (G) (D)
 F C7 Dm Gm7 B^b F

Will you go where you don't know and nev - er be the same?
 Will you care for cruel and kind and nev - er be the same?
 Will you set the pris - oners free and nev - er be the same?
 Will you quell the fear in - side and nev - er be the same?
 Let me turn and fol - low you and nev - er be the same.

(Em7) (G) (F#m7) (G) (Asus) (A)
 Gm7 B^b Am7 B^b Csus C

Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare should your life at - tract or scare?
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as this un - seen,
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the world a - round,
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and foot-steps show.

(D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (G) (D)
 F C7 Dm Gm7 B^b F

will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"
 Will you let me an - swer prayer in you and you in me?"
 and ad - mit to what I mean in you and you in me?"
 through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"
 Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

The first four stanzas of this ballad-like hymn are understood to be in the voice of Christ, with the fifth reflecting the individual singer's response. Created for this traditional Scottish tune, the text was written to mark the conclusion of a youth volunteer's time of ministry.

Jesus Calls Us

720

1 Je - sus calls us: o'er the tu - mult of our
 2 Je - sus calls us from the wor - ship of the
 3 In our joys and in our sor - rows, days of
 4 Je - sus calls us: by thy mer - cies, Sav - ior,

life's wild, rest - less sea; day by day his sweet voice
 vain world's gold - en store, from each i - dol that would
 toil and hours of ease, still he calls, in cares and
 may we hear thy call, give our hearts to thy o -

sound - eth say - ing, "Chris - tian, fol - low me."
 keep us, say - ing, "Chris - tian, love me more."
 plea - sures, "Chris - tian, love me more than these."
 be - dience, serve and love thee best of all.

Like many hymns that adults have come to cherish, this text based on Jesus' calling of the disciple Andrew was written for a 19th-century collection of hymns for children. The popular tune used here was composed for these words more than a quarter of a century later.

Notes and Acknowledgements

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A Note on Giving: *We welcome and encourage your financial generosity in support of the Storrs Congregational Church UCC! Giving back to God and God’s mission through the life of this church is a part of your gratitude towards God and your faithful stewardship of all that God has entrusted to you.*

- **Mail:** *You can mail your check or money order to us at the church office*
- **Drop-off:** *You can drop off cash, checks, or money orders at the church office during the week.*
- **Online Bill Pay:** *Most banks and credit unions offer an “online bill pay” in their online account access. All you need to do is set up the church as another payee in that system, and your bank or credit union will print a check and mail it to us at no cost—you don’t even need to find a stamp!*
- **Online or text via ACH debit from a checking or savings account:** *By using our website giving portal (go to www.storrsconchurch.org and click the green “Give now...” button), you can make an auto-debit from your checking or savings account. (Note that we are assessed a small processing fee, 1% of the contribution, plus 35¢ per transaction. You will be given the option—and it is optional—when you make your contribution to add a small amount to offset the 1% processing fee.)*
- **Online or text via Debit Card or Credit Card:** *By using our website giving portal (go to www.storrsconchurch.org and click the green “Give now...” button), you can charge your contribution to a debit card or credit card. (Note that we are assessed a small processing fee, 3% of the contribution, plus 35¢ per transaction. You will be given the option—and it is optional—when you make your contribution to add a small amount to offset the 3% processing fee.) If using a credit card, know that we as a church do not want you to add to any debt load in order for you to contribute, as that’s not good stewardship! If using a credit card, please make sure, for your own sake, that it’s a card for which you pay off the balance each month.*

If you have any questions about how to make a contribution, or about your giving history, feel free to contact our Collector, Donna Latincsics (contact info available through the church office).

We envision our community as a welcoming, historic, and progressive Christian community. *We are an Open and Affirming congregation: Believing that each of us is unique and blessed with special talents from God, each a creation of God’s love, alike and yet different, we open our doors and our ministry to all. We accept into full participation in the life of this Church: people of any age, economic status, gender, marital status, race, sexual orientation, and physical, emotional and mental capability. As a community, we will work to put aside all prejudices and to affirm and promote the worth and dignity of each person.*

STORRS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

*We share in God’s love by growing in faith,
courageously seeking justice, and generously caring for all people.*

<i>Ministers</i>	All of the Congregation
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