

Unto all who keep the covenant and are steadfast in God's way, unto all who still remember God's commandments and obey.

Bless your Maker, every creature, all who live in God's control; all throughout this vast dominion bless your Maker, O my soul!

Benediction

Passing of the Peace

Postlude

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
A United Church of Christ Congregation

June 17, 2018

Call to Worship

B. M. Neel

One: We gather this day to celebrate life—

All: **The life we have been given by God,**

One: The life we share with one another in community,

All: **The life that Jesus gives in abundance.**

One: Let us be grateful for the joy of life,

All: **And let us worship God.**

Hymn 6

WESTCHASE

Bring Many Names

Bring many names, beautiful and good, celebrate, in parable and story, holiness in glory, living, loving God. Hail and Hosanna! Bring many names!

Strong mother God, working night and day, planning all the wonders of creation, setting each equation, genius at play: Hail and Hosanna! Strong mother God!

Warm father God, hugging every child, feeling all the strains of human living, caring and forgiving till we're reconciled: Hail and Hosanna! Warm father God!

Old, aching God, gray with endless care, calmly piercing evil's new disguises, glad of good surprises, wiser than despair: Hail and Hosanna! Old, aching God!

Young, growing God, eager, on the move, saying no to falsehood and unkindness, crying out for justice, giving all you have: Hail and Hosanna! Young, growing God!

Great, living God, never fully known, joyful darkness far beyond our seeing, closer yet than breathing, everlasting home: Hail and Hosanna! Great, living God!

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

adapted from T. Shuman

Loving God, you provide for us in many different ways, and we confess that we do not always recognize you at work in the world around us. We get impatient, wanting you to work on our schedule. We wish for something more or different than what you have offered. We want someone else to solve problems we have had a hand in creating. Forgive our thoughtless words, our arrogant ignorance. Turn us once again to you, and focus our hearts on your way. Hear our prayers...

(moments for silent reflections)

Words of Assurance

Anthem

Arther Sullivan

And God Shall Wipe Away All Tears

Children's Message and Lord's Prayer

Caitlyn Menolasino

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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Hymn 224

MORECAMBE

Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart

Spirit of God, descend upon my heart; warm it with hope, through all its pulses move; stoop to my weakness, mighty as thou art, and make me love thee as I ought to love.

I ask no dream, no prophet ecstasies, no sudden rending of the veil of clay, no angel visitant, no opening skies, but take the dimness of my soul away.

Hast thou not bid us love thee, our true Light? All, all thine own: soul, heart, and strength, and mind; I see thy cross, my beacon in the night; O let me seek thee, and O let me find!

Teach me to feel that thou art always nigh; teach me the struggles of the soul to bear: to check the rising doubt, the rebel sigh; teach me the patience of unanswered prayer.

Teach me to love thee as thine angels love, one holy passion filling all my frame; the baptism of the heaven descended Dove. My heart an altar and thy love the flame.

Pastoral Prayer

Offertory

Oh, Gambler

John Jacob Niles

Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessing flow.
Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts.
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

Scripture Lesson

2 Corinthians 4:5-12

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Jeanette Brodersen

Hymn 70

STUTTGART

O My Soul, Bless Your Redeemer

O my soul, bless your Redeemer; all within me bless God's name; bless the Lord and so remember bounteous mercies to proclaim:

Who forgives all our transgressions, and with mercy gently heals, who redeems us from destruction, and with goodness kindly deals.

Far as east from west is distant, so God puts away our sin; like a mother and a father, God compassionate has been.

As it was without beginning, so it lasts and never ends; to our children's children ever, God's own righteousness extends: