

Welcome

Prelude/Candle Lighting

"Impromptu" (Franz Schubert)

RuthAnn Ledgerwood

Ringing of the Bell

*Call to Worship

Leader: Be still—and remember who you are. Come—and touch the water of your birth.

All: We are beloved. We are heirs. We are children of God.
Leader: We are claimed. We are marked. We are named by God.
All: We are chosen and blessed. We are gifted to love.
Leader: We are called to witness through word and deed.

*Opening Prayer (in unison):

Gracious God, we gather today to baptize one of your little ones, to share in your sacred meal, and to bless a member's faithful service. This is your work: blessing, baptizing, feeding, service. This is what you call us to as followers of your Way. Bless, O God, our promises, our gratitude, and the nourishment you give us. Bless this day in our life together. Amen.

*Opening Hymn "Lord, I Want to Be a Christian" Hymnal #372

Baptism of Leddy Halama

Congregational Promise

Leader: Do you, who witness and celebrate this sacrament, promise your love, support and care to

Leddy, as she lives and grows in her relationship with God?

People: We promise our love, support and care.

Congregational Proclamation

You have been baptized into Jesus Christ; you are a child of God; you have put on Christ. In Christ there is no longer Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for we are all one.

Congregational Welcome (as Leddy is presented)

Leddy, we welcome you joyfully as a member of the family of Jesus the Christ. We offer ourselves as your extended family in this place, to love and encourage you as you grow in faith. We promise to honor your acts of commitment and witness; to defend you in your pursuit of truth; to join you in your struggle to accept the costs and joys of discipleship. We promise to support your parents and sponsors in the vows which they have made. We give them, and you, our love and support.

Baptismal Anthem "Brighter than the Sun" Choir

Readings Leah Langby

1 John 3:1-3 Matthew 5:1-12

Sermon in Brief Blessed Are Rev. Kathleen Remund

Transitional Music "Oh, the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus" RuthAnn Ledgerwood

(Thomas J. Williams)

Prayers of the People

Blessing for Dave Ottman

Dave, we are grateful for your creativity, imagination, and hard work over the past several years. Because of you, our members are able to worship with us when they're sick or traveling. Because of you, new people have been ministered to by this congregation. We offer you our thanks and our blessing as your new path unfolds, and we promise to continue with you in serving God's reign of shalom. Amen.

Offertory "A Flower Remembered" RuthAnn Ledgerwood (John Rutter)

*Doxology

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

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation

Now we set aside the common for an uncommon purpose as we prepare for Holy Communion, the family meal of Christ's people. In this meal, we remember the life, teaching, witness, and death of Jesus. We celebrate his continued life among us. We remind one another that we are called to participate in Jesus' Way of extravagant welcome and service. Come prepared to be blessed. Come because God has food for you. Come because Jesus invites you... just as you are.

Great Thanksgiving

Leader: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to God.

Leader: Let us give thanks to God.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Lord's Prayer

(paraphrase from the Pendle Hill Community)

Heavenly Father, Heavenly Mother, holy and blessed is your true name. We pray for your reign of peace to come; we pray that your good will be done. Let heaven and earth become one. Give us this day the bread we need; give it to those who have none. Let forgiveness flow like a river between us, from each one to each one to each one. Lead us to a holy innocence, beyond the evil of our days. Come swiftly, Mother, Father, come. For yours is the power and the mercy and the glory. Forever your name is all One. Amen.

Breaking Bread and Pouring Wine

Please join me in the words of institution over the bread:

All: When he was among friends, gathered around a table, Jesus took bread and having blessed it, he broke the bread and gave it to his disciples saying, "Take and eat. This is my body which is given for you."

The deacons will pass the bread through the congregation. As you take a piece of bread, hold it until everyone has been served. We will eat the bread together, recognizing that God calls us to life in community.

Distribution Hymn:

"We Come to the Hungry Feast"

(attached)

Please join me in the words of institution over the cup:

All: In the same way Jesus took wine and having given thanks for it, he poured it out and gave the cup to his disciples, saying, "This cup is the new relationship with God, made possible because of my life and my death. Take this—all of you—to remember me."

The deacons will pass the wine and juice through the congregation. The juice is dark red; the wine is white. When you have helped yourself, you may drink right away in recognition of God's relationship with each of us as individuals.

Distribution Hymn:

"Let There Be Peace on Earth"

(attached)

Prayer of Gratitude (in unison)

Gracious God, you have fed and strengthened us for your work in the world. Send us out today with the good news of your presence alive in the world, your promises still unfolding, your voice still speaking. May our rituals today fill us with your love, energy and passion, so that we may act on your behalf to repair the breach between this world and your promised shalom. Amen.

*Closing Hymn

"Halle, Halle, Halle"

SOF#54

*Benediction

Leader:

May the God of unfailing love—in whose kin-dom the poor are blessed and the hungry filled—strengthen you to follow in the Way Jesus has made known to us through his life, his death, and his resurrection.

All: Amen.

*Sung Benediction

God be with you till we meet again; By their counsels guide, uphold you; With their sheep securely fold you; God be with you till we meet again.

Postlude

"God Will Take Care of You" (Phillip Keveren)

RuthAnn Ledgerwood

The flowers today are from Jane and Tom Slupe celebrating numerous family birthdays and anniversaries in November including Jane and Tom's 50th anniversary. Congratulations!

Credits

- The Call to Worship was adapted from one written by Lisa Ann Moss Degrenia, © 2021, www.revlisad.com
- The Communion liturgy (including the prayer of gratitude) was adapted from elements in the following: A Wee Worship Book, Chicago: GIA Publications, 1999, The Iona Abbey Worship Book, Glasgow: Wild Goose Publications, 2017
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This Week:

Sunday, November 5th: Reception for Dave Ottmann followed by Program on Dementia in the Sanctuary **Tuesday, November 7**th, **9:00 am**: Tour of Homes meeting, Fellowship Hall **Wednesday, November 8**th

9:30 am: Care Ministries meeting, Room 1

4:00 pm: Kid's Club

Thursday, November 9th, 9:30 am: Tour/Crafts meeting, Room 1

Saturday, November 11th, 9:00 am: Fall Clean-up

Mission Statement of First Congregational United Church of Christ in Menomonie, WI

We are called together:

To celebrate God's presence;

To help each person to grow in his or her relationship with God;

To create a welcoming and supportive community of all God's people, affirming the diversity of race, gender, age, sexual orientation, gender expression and identity, social and economic status, and the differently abled;

To observe and share life's passages and our faith traditions;

To reach out in love seeking justice and peace;

And to tell the old story of Jesus and His love.

Land Acknowledgement

Here we congregate on Ojibwe, <u>Dakota</u>, Menominee, <u>Potawatomi</u>, and Ho Chunk land. Where we now gather, generations gathered long before Europeans landed on these shores. The original inhabitants of this land, known to some Indigenous peoples as Turtle Island, took seriously the Creator's call to be stewards of air, land, water, and creature. We pray our thanks for their knowledge and wisdom; we exist in this place because of the lessons they continue to teach. Let us come before the Creating One and pray for guidance in learning how to make reparations with our Native neighbors.

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Lord, I Want to Be a Christian





We Come to the Hungry Feast



Let There Be Peace on Earth



Halle, Halle, Halle

