

"Appoint us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left..."

Welcome to Worship

First Congregational United Church of Christ

Menomonie, Wisconsin

Second Sunday in Lent February 25, 2024

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude/Candle Lighting

"Minuet in G Major" (J. Handel)

Oxana Khramova

Ringing of the Bells

Chant "Oh, Lord, Hear My Prayer"

Oh, Lord, hear my prayer/Oh, Lord, hear my prayer/When I call, answer me, Oh, Lord, hear my prayer/Oh, Lord, hear my prayer/Come, and listen to me.

Call to Worship

Leader: The voice of God gathers us this day;

All: The warmth of God brings us together as one people.

Leader: So we come, with joy and sorrow in our hearts,

All: With acts mighty and faltering, Leader: With kindness and with selfishness,

All: With doubt and with faith:

Leader: So may we bring the fullness of our lives to God.

All: May we worship well this day.

Opening Prayer (in unison)

Gracious God, during this Lenten season you call us into the deep where you dwell; where you surround us fully and uphold us in the buoyancy of your great compassion. As we plunge into the deep today and face our fears of not belonging—may we meet you; may we meet our deepest-held truths; and may we come face to face with your grace, the wellspring and promise of our lives. Amen.

*Opening Hymn "Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant?" vs. 1-4 (attached)

Readings Cindy Theorin

Psalm 34:11-14 Mark 10:35-45

from "The Inner Circle," by Heidi Haverkamp

Anthem "O Thou in Whose Presence" Choir

(Walter Ehret)

Sermon On the Outside, Looking In Rev. Kathleen Remund

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer

Our Father/Mother/Creator, 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 the glory forever. Amen.

Offertory

"Ach Was Soll Ich Sunder Machen"
(J. Pachelbel)

Oxana Khramova

*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.

*Prayer of Dedication (in unison)

Generous God, make us generous in your image. Make us compassionate in your image. Make us faithful in your image. Bless these gifts and all the gifts we offer, that your kin-dom may come on earth. Amen.

*Closing Hymn

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

Hymnal #376

*Benediction

Leader:

The journey into the deep requires trust. Go forth, this morning, with a renewed trust in the God who knows your every breath, your every thought, your every action, your every longing. Know that the deeper you dive, the closer you will draw to the One who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No matter how dark it seems, remember you are not alone.

All: Amen.

*Sung Benediction

Oh, Lord, hear my prayer/Oh Lord, hear my prayer/When I call, answer me Oh, Lord, hear my prayer/Oh Lord, hear my prayer/Come, and listen to me.

Postlude

"Be Thou my Vision" (Carol Tornquist)

Oxana Khramova

Today's flowers are from Cindy and Lee Theorin in memory of their parents Ray and Margaret Brien, and Glenn and Joanne Theorin.

Credits

- The Call to Worship was written by Beth Merrill Neel and published on her website, *Hold Fast to What is Good*, https://holdfasttowhatisgood.com/liturgy/call-to-worship/.
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This Week:

Tuesday, February 27th: Search Committee meeting, 5:00 pm

Wednesday, February 28th: Kid's Club, 4:00 pm; Christian Ed. meeting, 5:00 pm; Choir rehearsal 5:30 pm; Bells rehearsal, 6:30 pm

Friday, March 1st: Water is Life meeting 9:00 am; Worship Committee meeting, 10:00 am

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;

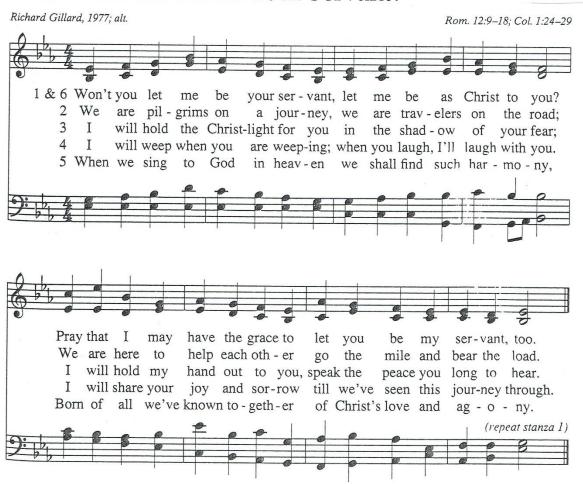
To reach out in love seeking justice and peace;

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

Land Acknowledgement

Here we congregate on Ojibwe, Dakota, Menominee, Potawatomi, and Ho Chunk land. Generations of Indigenous people occupied and provided careful stewardship of this land long before Europeans arrived on these shores. The traumatic dispossession of this land by European immigrants and the displacement of countless individuals produced collective suffering that has repercussions for our Indigenous neighbors today. 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 creatures. With gratitude, we acknowledge the lessons we continue to learn from our Indigenous neighbors as we seek to be good stewards and pray for guidance in learning how to make reparations.

Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant?



Richard Gillard was born in England and later made his home in New Zealand. Largely self-taught, Gillard has described his musical style as "folk." This is the best known of his many songs in the United States.

Tune: SERVANT SONG 8.7.8.7. Richard Gillard, 1977 Arr. Betty Carr Pulkingham, 1977; adapt. HYFRYDOL 8.7.8.7 D

