

#### Welcome

**Prelude/Candle Lighting** 

"Did You Think to Pray" (M.Bailey)

Oxana Khramova

#### Ringing of the Bell

\*Call to Worship (inspired by Psalm 139)

Leader: We've come to worship God, who loved us before we were born—

All: Who knows us even better than we know ourselves—

Leader: Whose presence never leaves us, and whose love for us never ceases—

All: This is our God.

Leader: Let us worship God together!

#### \*Opening Prayer (in unison)

Ever-present God, who knows us in all the stages and shapes of our lives—instill in us a hunger to know and love the selves you have created us to be. As we come to know ourselves, may we listen more truly for your voice. May we trust you enough to open our hearts, minds, questions, doubts, hesitance, fears and yearnings to your gaze. Because when we are most truly ourselves, we are most fully connected to you. Amen.

\*Opening Hymn "God of Our Life" Hymnal #275

Readings Heather Jerrie

Psalm 139:1-14a, 17-18
1 Samuel 3:1-10
from Let Your Life Speak, by Parker

from Let Your Life Speak, by Parker Palmer

Anthem "Make Me a Servant" Choir

(J. Paul Williams/Benjamin Harlan)

Sermon Becoming Ourselves Rev. Kathleen Remund

**Transitional Music** "How Great the Wisdom and the Love" Oxana Khramova

(K. Rowley)

#### **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.

Stewardship Moment Jeanne Rothaupt

Offertory "Adagio from Piano Sonata in D major" Oxana Khramova

(W. Mozart)

#### \*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)

Holy God, you know us deeply. You teach us your way and call us to follow you. Help us to trust you with all aspects of our lives. May these gifts of our lives and our finances help spread your love and your peace to this community of humans you know and love so deeply. Amen.

\*Closing Hymn "All My Days" SoF #2

#### \*Benediction

Leader: Beloveds, go forth in the deep awareness that you are fully known and fully loved by God—the Source and Ground of your being. Go out into your day and your week with your eyes, ears, and hearts open to the promptings of the Spirit. Seek the Way of compassion...and do not be afraid.

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** "Reflections" Oxana Khramova

(M. Tariverdiev)

Today's flowers are in celebration of 2024!!!

#### **Credits**

- The Call to Worship was adapted from one posted in <a href="https://re-worship.blogspot.com">https://re-worship.blogspot.com</a>.
- The Prayer of Dedication was adapted from one written by Rev. Rosanna Anderson and posted in "Offertory Prayers and Invitation for January 2015, *Discipleship Ministries*, <a href="https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/">https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/</a>
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#### This Week:

Monday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, *Ministry for the Future* book discussion, 6:00-7:30 pm, Room 1 Wednesday, January 17th, Kids' Club 4:00 pm; Choir rehearsal 5:30 pm; Bell Choir rehearsal 6:30 pm Friday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, *Ministry for the Future* book discussion (Zoom) 10:00 am Sunday, January 21<sup>st</sup>, Bridge Coffee Hour 9:00 am; Congregational Conversation 11:15am

# 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;
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.

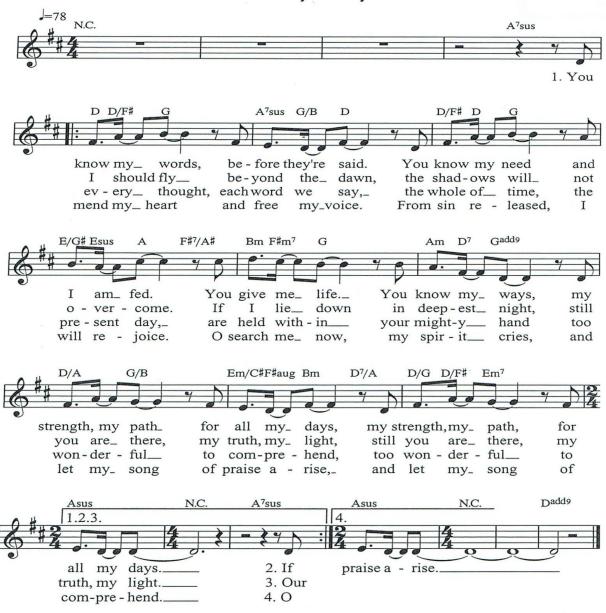
### God of Our Life

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## All My Days



Words: Laurie Zelman Music: Mark A. Miller

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