

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

Kristen Billingsley

Offertory

**"Reverie"
(Tchaikovsky)**

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)

God of justice and compassion, we bring our offerings in hope that they will be used to make your amazing love known to all. Remind us that—just as you raise prophets and leaders from “among the people”—we might be the ones you call to turn those hopes into action. Amen.

*Closing Hymn

“Christ, Be Our Light!”

SoF #24

*Benediction

Leader: May we go forth this morning, replenished by the grace and mercy of God, blessed by the healing love of Jesus, energized by the power of the Holy Spirit, and astounded by the authority of truthfulness.

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

**“Just As I Am”
(W. Bradbury, arr. C. Tornquist)**

Oxana Khramova

Today's flowers are from Naomi Cummings in loving memory of her mother, Dorothy, who passed away last January, a day shy of her 98th birthday.

Credits

- The Call to Worship was written by Beth Merrill Neel and posted on her blog, *Hold Fast to What is Good*, <https://holdfasttowhatisgood.com/liturgy/call-to-worship/>.
- The Opening Prayer was adapted from one originally posted on the "Worship Elements" page of the *Ministry Matters* website and re-posted at <https://re-worship.blospot.com>.
- The Prayer of Dedication
- The Benediction was adapted from one written by Moira Laidlaw, posted on her *Liturgies Online* website, and re-posted on <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship-planning/>.
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This Week:

Today, January 28, following 10:00 am worship: Visioning for the Future, Congregational Conversation, Fellowship Hall

Monday, January 29, 6:00 pm: *Ministry for the Future* book discussion, room 1

Wednesday, January 31: 4:00 pm Kid's Club; 5:30 pm Choir rehearsal; 6:30 pm Bell Choir rehearsal

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.

Announcement: Check out these books!

New books were added to the "intergenerational bookshelf" on the lower level:

- *The Grieving Brain: The Surprising Science of How We Learn from Love and Loss* (2022); *It's OK That You're Not OK: Meeting Grief and Loss in a Culture That Doesn't Understand* (2017); and *What's Your Grief? Lists to Help You Through Any Loss* (2022)
- Three copies of *So We & Our Children May Live: Following Jesus in Confronting the Climate Crisis* (2023)
- Six coloring books for Adults/Seniors/Adults with Dementia - Large Pattern, Large Print

Oh Praise the Gracious Power

Lyrics by Thomas H. Troeger

1. O praise the gracious power
That tumbles walls of fear
And gathers in one house of faith
All strangers far and near

Refrain: We praise you, Christ!
Your cross has made us one!

2. O praise persistent truth
That opens fisted minds
And eases from their anxious clutch
The prejudice that blinds

Refrain

3. O praise inclusive love
Encircling every race
Oblivious to gender, wealth
To social rank or place

Refrain

4. O praise the power, the truth
The love, the word, the tide
Yet more than these, O praise their source
Praise Christ the crucified

Refrain

CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT

Bernadette Farrell

Verses



1. Long-ing for light, — we wait in dark - ness. Long-ing for
2. Long-ing for peace, — our world is trou - bled. Long-ing for
3. Long-ing for food, — man - y are hun - gry. Long-ing for
4. Long-ing for shel-ter, man - y are home-less. Long-ing for
5. Man - y the gifts, — man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



1. truth, — we turn to you. Make us your own, —
2. hope, — man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone —
3. wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread, —
4. warmth, — man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
5. hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



1. your ho - ly peo-ple, light for the world to see.
2. has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
3. bro - ken for oth-ers, shared un - til all are fed.
4. shel - ter - ing oth-ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
5. to one an - oth-er, mak - ing your king - dom come.

Refrain



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the dark - ness.



Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gath-ered to-day.