



Welcome and Announcements

Karen Miller

Prelude/Candle Lighting

“Quiet Prelude I”
(F Jacobi)

Oxana Khramova

Ringling of the Bell

***Call to Worship**

Leader: But who can discern their own weaknesses?

All: Cleanse me oh Love, from all my hidden faults.

Leader: Keep me from boldly acting in error; let my fears not have dominion over me.

All: Then shall I become a beneficial presence, freely and fully surrendered to your Love.

Leader: Let the words of my mouth

All: And the meditation of my heart find favor in your Heart, O my Beloved, my strength and my joy!

***Opening Prayer (in unison)**

Make your work known to us, and stretch out your hand to touch us here. May we truly listen to the witness of all creation. Give us eyes to see beauty in all that is around us. Quiet our scoffing and give us the discipline to remain in You each day. Amen.

***Opening Hymn**

“Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun”

Hymnal #456

Readings

James 3:1-12

“Seventy times seven”, Steve Garnaas-Holmes

Karen Miller

Anthem

“Love Grows Here”
(D. Besig)

Chancel Choir

Sermon

“Teaching Restraint”

Jill Christopherson

Transitional Music “We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight” Oxana Khramova

Prayers of the People

The Lord’s Prayer (unison)

Our 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 “There Is None Like You” Oxana Khramova
(L. LeBlanc, arr. C. Tornquist)

***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)

We offer the treasures of this world as a way of recalling all of us to a right relationship with You, O God, the Source of all wisdom and truth. Your design for life is desired more than the finest gold. To share what we learn from you and to serve you is our highest joy. Amen.

***Closing Hymn** “Make Me a Channel of Your Peace” SoF #88

***Benediction**

Leader: God blesses our tongues with guidance toward wisdom. We look for God in the midst of creation and God’s face in those people around us. This is the excitement of being a follower of Jesus. With God’s guidance, our lives are blessed and through us the life of the world.

All: **Amen.**

***Sung Benediction (unison)**

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 “King of Heaven” Oxana Khramova
(J. Ingram and P. Baloché, arr. C. Tornquist)

*The flowers today are from Ron Fry
in celebration of his 85th Birthday on Friday, September 20th.*

Credits

- Call to Worship: Psalms for Praying: An Invitation to Wholeness, Nan C. Merrill, Continuum, New York, NY. 1996. P33.
- Opening Prayer, Offertory Prayer and Benediction adapted from Baylor, Lavon, Led By Love: Worship Resources For Year B, United Church Press, Cleveland, OH, 1996,
- Seventy times seven, Steve Garnaas-Holmes, published September 14, 2023, Unfoldinglight, www.unfoldinglight.net Benediction is from The Revised Common Lectionary at <https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/prayer/>

This Week

Tuesday, September 17: Tour of Homes craft meeting 9am-1:30 pm, in Room 1

Wednesday, September 11: Chancel Choir rehearsal, 5:30 pm

New Office Hours: Monday – Thursday, 9am – 2pm; Friday, Closed

Sunday, October 22: Bell Deadline for submitting articles

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.

ONA Covenant

We covenant as a congregation to welcome, celebrate, and include lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning people and their families into the full life of our church. We take this stance publicly and proudly, knowing that silence is inadequate to confront the violent theology that is widespread throughout the Christian church. We covenant to support lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning people and their families with our prayers, words, and actions.

Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun 456

MORNING HYMN LM

François Hippolyte Barthélémon, 1785
As in *The Church Hymnal*
for the *Christian Year*, 1917

Thomas Ken, 1695; alt.

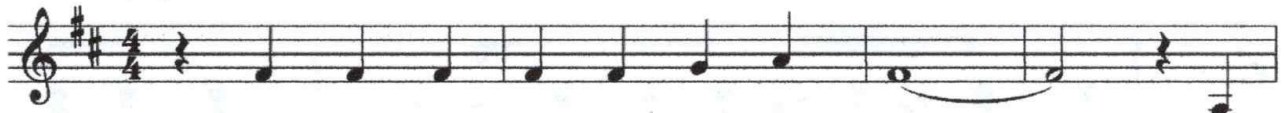
1. A - wake, my soul, and with the sun your
2. Lord, I my vows to You re - new. Dis -
3. Di - rect, con - trol, sug - gest, this day, All

dai - ly stage of du - ty run; Shake off dull sloth, and
perse my sins as morn - ing dew; Guard my first springs of
I de - sign or do or say; That all my powers, with

joy - ful rise To pay your morn - ing sac - ri - fice.
thought and will, And with Your - self my spir - it fill.
all their might, In Your sole glo - ry may u - nite.

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

Verses 1, 2, 4



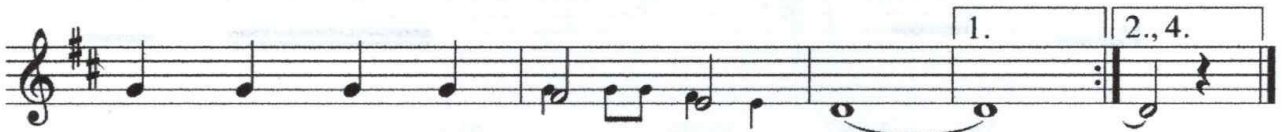
1. Make me a chan-nel of your peace. Where
 2. Make me a chan-nel of your peace. Where
 4. Make me a chan-nel of your peace. It



there is ha-tred, let me bring your love. Where
 there's de-spair in life, let me bring hope. Where
 is in par-don-ing that we are par-doned, in



there is in-ju-ry, your par-don, Lord, And
 there is dark-ness, on-ly light, And
 giv-ing of our-selves that we re-ceive, and in



where there's doubt, true faith in you. 1.
 where there's sad-ness, ev-er joy. 2., 4.
 dy-ing that we're born to e-ter-nal life.

Verse 3



3. Oh, Mas-ter, grant that I may nev-er seek So much to be con-



soled as to con-sole. To be un-der-stood as to un-der-



stand. To be loved as to love with all my soul.