

TRICON
EVOLVE 2017
Trinitarian Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Concord, Massachusetts
August 20, 2017

*Come and find the quiet center in the crowded life we lead.
Find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed.
Clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes, that we can see
All the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be.*

- Shirley Erena Murray

SILENT PRAYER

God, give us grace to accept with serenity the things that cannot be changed, courage to change the things which should be changed, and the wisdom to distinguish the one from the other. Amen.

- Reinhold Niebuhr (1892-1971)

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME; OUR MISSION AND MINISTRY

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Gather together in the name of God! This is the day of worship. We are here to praise and pray to God, the Source of our life and hope for the future.

Many: "For my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples," says the Lord.

One: Besides the people we expect to be here, we will find in God's house foreigners, outcasts, and those that are simply different from us. All are welcome here!

Many: "For my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples."

One: This is the day to do what is right and to maintain justice; God has gathered us here to save and to bless. Let us be Joyful in the Lord!

Many: "For my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples."

(based upon Isaiah 56:1-8)

***HYMN** (insert)

WE GATHER TOGETHER

***INVOCATION**

READING FROM THE SCRIPTURES Matthew 15:21-28

SERMON

THE COURAGE TO RECONSIDER

JEAN VANDERGRIFT

One: The Good News of the Reign of God
Many: Thanks be to God.

***HYMN** (insert)

I WOULD BE TRUE

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Everyone is invited to offer a joy or concern aloud.
Following your request please end with...

One: This is MY prayer.

Many: This is OUR prayer.

THE PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR

Our Father, 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERING OF GIFTS

Call to Stewardship

Offertory

***Hymn of Praise**

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.

Old Hundredth

***Prayer of Dedication**

One: Great God, enlarge our faith and make us a more open people through the offering of these gifts...

Many: open-minded in hearing your Word and wisdom,

One: open-hearted in healing a broken world,

Many: open-handed in acts of mercy and love. Amen.

*HYMN (insert)

RISE UP, O SAINTS OF GOD!

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*The congregation is invited to stand.

† Go Forth and Serve †

Leading Worship: Rev. Robert Brown, Acting Senior Minister; Rev. Dr. Jean Vandergrift, Interim Minister for Spiritual Development and Congregational Life; Victoria Wagner, Music Director; Patience Jackson, Liturgist.

The flowers are given by Kathy and John Flynn in loving memory of their daughter, Judy Flynn Hardy.