

JOINT SERVICES
West Concord Union Church
Trinitarian Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Concord, Massachusetts
July 29, 2018

“There are guides who can show you the way.
Use them.
But they will not satisfy your longing.
Keep wanting that connection with all your pulsing energy.”
-- Rumi

SILENT PRAYER

Spirit who dawns upon us like the morning light, be gracious unto us and bless us, we pray.
May your touch enliven us as the rain makes the grass grow greenly, so that we might give
forth your praise. Amen.

WORDS OF WELCOME

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God is already here. What does this worship service need?
Many: **This worship service needs quiet where faith can grow,
song that blossoms hope, scripture that remembers love,
honest words to untangle our knotty existence,
and gifts offering service from the heart.
This worship service needs me and us.**

One: So who is welcome to this worship service?
Many: **Everyone! The hungry and thirsty,
and especially all who are lonely for God's touch.**

*INVOCATION

*HYMN

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

OUR MISSION AND MINISTRY

READING FROM THE SCRIPTURES Matthew 5:1-12 (responsively with chant)

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One: When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain;
and after he sat down, his disciples came to him.
Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

Many: **“Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

One: Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.

Many: **Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the earth.**

One: Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be satisfied.

Many: **Blessed are the merciful,
for they will receive mercy.** R

One: Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they will see God.

Many: **Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God.**

One: Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Many: **Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you
and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.**

One: Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven,

Many: **for in the same way they persecuted the prophets
who were before you.”**

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SERMON

“A Hunger That Satisfies”

Jean Vandergrift

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Everyone is invited to offer a joy or concern out loud.
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**

Old Hundredth

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** (unison)

Gracious God, who gives and gives and gives to us again, hear our plea for one more gift: a generous spirit, so that these offerings may reflect your generous love and return to you multiplied in good works. In the name and way of Jesus, Amen.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*The congregation is invited to stand.

† Go Forth and Serve †

Leading Worship: Rev. Dr. Jean Vandergrift, Interim Minister for Spiritual Development and Congregational Life, Trinitarian Congregational Church; Jim Barkovic, Music Director, West Concord Union Church; Betsy Swaim, Liturgist.