



Trinitarian Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Concord, Massachusetts
September 1, 2019

Nurturing Community

"Any time we practice hospitality
we follow in the steps of our lavishly hospitable God."
-Dustin Willis (*The Simplest Way to Change the World*)

SILENT PRAYER: Loving God, May Your Spirit move in our hearts and minds as we worship together – examine our attitudes and actions, show us the things we need to confess, challenge us with Your Word, and guide us on to paths that lead to life. For we are Your people, called by Your name. Amen.

PRELUDE *Simple Gifts* arranged by Jason Tonioli

WELCOME/OUR MINISTRY AND MISSION

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

One: Jesus said, "Love one another, even as I have loved you."

All: For love is more powerful than fear.

One: Help us, O Lord, to witness to you and your love by the ways in which we care for others.

All: For how else will the world know?

One: Remind us, Lord, that we are called to be your disciples.

All: And as we worship this morning, prepare our hearts and spirits to receive you in Word and Sacrament. Amen.

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also, with you.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

COMMUNION PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (UNISON)

Holy God, we give you thanks that we have been fed at this banquet and renewed by Christ's life in us. We go now to share that life with others. Send us forth equipped with the power of your Spirit to entertain angels unaware, to follow Jesus, and to spread the message of Christ's love to all whom we meet. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

* **HYMN** Take My Life

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *'Tis a Gift to be Simple*
1848 Shaker Tune by Joseph Brackett, Jr. (1797-1882)
"... 'tis a gift to come down where we ought to be..."

Go Forth and Serve

Leading Worship: Rev. Gail Miller, Minister of Congregational Life; Marsha Martin, Musician.

The flowers are given by Jack and Cynthia LaMothe in appreciation of all the Caring Connection volunteers.

- * **HYMN** Here We Gather
- * **INVOCATION**

INTRODUCTION TO SCRIPTURE
READING FROM THE SCRIPTURES

Luke 14:1, 7-14

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.

When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. 'When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, "Give this person your place", and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, "Friend, move up higher"; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.'

He said also to the one who had invited him, 'When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.'

SERMON *Humility and Hospitality* Rev. Gail Miller

- * **HYMN** We Come as Guests Invited

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

All: This is OUR prayer

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 *All Are Welcome* by Marty Haugen

- * **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)**

Eternal God, you welcome us as people beloved by you and you shower us with blessings – the greatest of these being Jesus, your Son, our Lord. We share what we have with you, by offering these gifts and the service of our lives as signs of our thanksgiving and our desire to follow Jesus. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

COMMUNION PRAYER

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

Communion by Intinction -

All are welcome to come forward to the center to receive a piece of bread to dip it in the chalice. If you wish to receive communion at your seat, raise your hand and you will be served.

Take My Life

HENDON 7.7.7

Frances Ridley Havergal, 1874

H. A. César Malan, 1827

1. Take my life, and let it be Con-se - crat - ed, Lord, to Thee.
 2. Take my hands, and let them move At the im - pulse of Thy love.
 3. Take my voice, and let me sing, Al - ways, on - ly, for my King.
 4. Take my sil - ver and my gold. Not a mite would I with-hold;

Take my mo - ments and my days; Let them flow in
 Take my feet, and let them be Swift and beau - ti -
 Take my lips, and let them be Filled with mes - sa -
 Take my in - tel - lect, and use Ev - ery power as

cease - less praise. Let them flow in cease - less praise.
 ful for Thee. Swift and beau - ti - ful for Thee.
 ges from Thee. Filled with mes - sa - ges from Thee.
 Thou shalt choose. Ev - ery power as Thou shalt choose.

5. Take my will, and make it Thine;
 It shall be no longer mine.
 Take my heart, it is Thine own;
 It shall be Thy royal throne.
 It shall be Thy royal throne.

6. Take my love; my Lord, I pour
 At Thy feet its treasure store.
 Take myself, and I will be
 Ever, only, all for Thee.
 Ever, only, all for Thee.



Here We Gather

Here we gath - er as God's peo - ple with our friends from far and near;

let our voic - es sound with prais - es know - ing Christ has called us here.

Now we seek and greet each oth - er, now in joy ap - proach our friends.

Here we min - gle, bound to - geth - er as to all our love ex - tends.

WORDS: Daniel B. Merrick, 1991
 MUSIC: Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second*, 1813

NETTLETON
 87.87D

We Come as Guests Invited

517

WIE LIEBLICH IST DER MAIEN 7.6.7.6 D

Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1975

Johann Sturlein, 1575

1. We come as guests in - vit - ed When Je - sus bids us dine.
2. We eat and drink, re - ceiv - ing From Christ the grace we need,
3. One bread is ours for shar - ing, One sin - gle fruit - ful vine.

His friends on earth u - nit - ed To share the bread and wine;
And in our hearts be - liev - ing On Him by faith we feed;
Our fel - low - ship de - clar - ing Re - newed in bread and wine:

The bread of life is bro - ken. The wine is free - ly poured
With won - der and thanks - giv - ing For love that knows no end.
Re - newed, sus - tained, and giv - en By to - ken, sign, and word.

For us, in sol - emn to - ken Of Christ our dy - ing Lord.
We find in Je - sus liv - ing Our ev - er - pres - ent Friend.
The pledge and seal of heav - en. The love of Christ our Lord.

Text: Copyright © 1984 by Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved.
Used by permission.

J-104-112

Reproduced with permission under
One License.net #A-711413

Offertory Music Note

This music is a hymn/song with words particularly appropriate to the day. While we won't be singing the words this morning, may they still speak to our hearts and our life together.

All Are Welcome by Marty Haugen

Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions.

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus.

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine and wheat:
a banquet hall on holy ground where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space;
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us.

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger.

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter.

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.