



An Open & Affirming Congregation in the United Church of Christ
Order of Worship for 8/14/2022
Tenth Sunday After Pentecost

Zoom link for Joys & Concerns: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2057847210>

Link to PDF of Hymns for larger print:

Prelude & Receiving the Light of Christ: Adagio from the octet F. Schubert

Welcome

Call to Worship:

Liturgy written by Rev. Dr. Dave Long-Higgins,
Conference Minister of the Heartland Conference, United Church of Christ

One: In a world uprooted at every turn, come beloved of God for replanting.

Many: Our hope and weariness are mixed together, yet we come, trusting ancient promises.

One: The Holy One who led the people out of Egypt, yearns to lead us, too.

Many: God will not rest until all are rerooted, restored, and renewed for rejoicing.

One: Let us be joined to God's song of justice, bearing beauty into the life of the world.

Many: May our lives be formed for faithfulness by the One who is always faithful.

***Hymn of Celebration:** Black #237 "I Come to the Garden Alone"

***Invocation:**

Loving and Gracious God, form a new song of soul within us. Take every fragment of our lives and fashion a new creation. Plant us deep in the soil of Your love, that your living water might rise in us, forming a fruit of possibility unimaginable on our own. Grant us grace to trust your promised presence already meeting us here, now, and always. By this, gift us with a new strength of heart for whatever Your love demands. Amen.

Listening To the Sacred Text: Isaiah 5:1-7

Listening for the Spirit in Silence:

Word and words, O God. Help us to hear the One among the many.

Reflecting: "Whose Tending the Garden?" (Kyle Riley, Seminarian & Outgoing Director of Online Ministries)

***Hymn of Reflection:** Black Hymnal 278 “Creator God, Creating Still”

Prayer for Transformation and New Life (in unison)

Gardener God, You plant us in a gifted place, but often we return sour grapes. In the midst of Your abundance, we complain of not having enough or being enough. Your call “to give justice to the weak and the orphan; to maintain the right of the lowly and the destitute” is easily overlooked or ignored. We are uprooted by our own inaction, selfishness, and fear. Re-root our hearts, our minds, and our lives in the soil of Your forgiving love. Bear up in us a boldness to sing a song strange to the world but known by You. Let it be the song of shalom, the chorus of Christ-love, a hallelujah rising as the world is mended by our consent to You. Yes, plant this anew in us today.

Offering invitation

Offertory Music: Warum?

R. Schumann

***Doxology (Tune: All Creatures Of Our God and King)**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Praise God for all that love has done. Creator, Christ, and Spirit One.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication:**

We thank you, Loving God, that sourness gives way to sweetness when we answer Your call to be generous. Multiply these gifts and Your spirit in us, that the world may know your life-giving will and way.

***Sending Song:** Red #541 “God Be with You Till We Meet Again”

***Benediction**

Postlude: Menuet I

J-P Rameau

****Please rise as you are able, in body or in spirit.***

Leading In Today’s Service:

Jaime Hadley, Usher

Kyle Riley, Seminarian & Outgoing Director of Online Ministries

Rev. Amelia Fulbright, Transitional Pastor

Bill Beardall, Reader

Britt Hicks, Livestream Technician

Jonathan Geer, Piano

Amy Harris, Violin

Liz Lee, Cello