



An Open & Affirming Congregation in the United Church of Christ
Order of Worship for 10/9/2022

Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Rev. Amelia Fulbright, Transitional Pastor

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: *Arabesque No. 1* Debussy

Welcome

Call to Worship: “God Is Love” from 1 John 4

***Hymn of Celebration:** Red Hymnal #401 “Here In This Place”

***Invocation** (*Unison*; adapted from Ted Loder’s “Gather Me Now”)

*O God, gather us now to be with you as you are with us.
Soothe our tiredness; quiet our fretfulness; curb our aimlessness;
receive our compulsiveness; let us be easy for a moment.
O Lord, release us from the fears and guilts which grip us so tightly;
from the expectations and opinions which we so tightly grip,
that we may be open to receiving, to learn something refreshingly different.
O God, gather us to be with you as you are with us. Amen.*

Listening To the Sacred Text: Genesis 32:22-32

Listening for the Spirit in Silence:

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

Reflecting: “The Struggle Is Real”

***Hymn of Reflection:** Black Hymnal #538 “Standing at the Future’s Threshold”

***Prayer for Transformation and New Life**

Leader: God, you see us.
You see our struggles,
You see our difficulties.

**All: You see our possibilities,
You see our promise.**

Leader: Connect the dots for us, O God.
Soften the hard spots with your blessing.

**All: Call us in our wandering to hear you say our names.
Satisfy our longings as with loaves and fishes and manna from
heaven.**

Leader: For you are a good God, a God present in the scramble,
And in the end, you always, always have a blessing.

**All: For this and so much more, we give you thanks, through Jesus
Christ. Amen.**

Offering invitation

Offertory Music: Graceful Ghost Rag Bolcom

Offering our gifts and our prayers

***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**

***Sending Song:** Black Hymnal #283 *Spirit of the Living God* (4x)

*Spirit of the Living God
Mercy of the Living God
Kindness of the Living God
Spirit of the Living God*

***Benediction**

Postlude: Etude in F minor, Op. 25, No. 2 Chopin

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

Leading In Today's Service:

Jen Howicz, Deacon on Duty
Britt Hicks, Director of Online Ministries
Jonathan Geer, Piano