



An Open & Affirming Congregation in the United Church of Christ
Order of Worship for 6/25/2023

Fourth Sunday After Pentecost ~ PRIDE Month

Rev. Amelia K. Fulbright, Transitional Pastor

*(Today's liturgy was written by Rev. Ann Jefferson, Associate Pastor of Worship & Liturgy
at City of Refuge UCC in Oakland, California)*

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: Christ calls us this day and every day to a journey of discipleship that will radically transform our lives.

ALL: We hear your summons as you call us by name, and our desire is to say "yes."

One: Christ calls us to a journey of "follow-ship" that will challenge us as it challenged Jesus to live the truth of his identity. It is not easy to let Christ's love be shown in the face of adversity or hostility and yet,

ALL: We hear your summons as you call us by name, and our desire is to say "yes."

One: Christ calls us to a journey of discipleship that may bring us into direct conflict with those we know and love, even the members of our own family but still,

ALL: We hear your summons as you call us by name, and our desire is to say "yes."

One: Christ calls us to a journey of "follow-ship" that offers life without fear, a life that transcends our earthly existence, eternally bound in the love and shelter of our Creator, and

ALL: We hear your summons as you call us by name, and our desire is to say "yes."

One: Christ calls us to a journey of discipleship that will call us OUT of the shadows and compel us to share the message of God's Kin-dom for all, proclaiming what we have learned at our teacher's feet and in the company of like-minded students and,

ALL: We hear your summons as you call us by name, and our desire is to say "yes."

One: Christ calls us this day and every day to a journey that will radically transform us and the world. Christ blesses us so that we do not have to travel alone, but with all others who hear their name and say "yes."

ALL: Let us continue the journey as we worship the One who calls us in spirit and in truth!

***Hymn of Celebration:**

"God of Many Faces"

Handout

Invocation (Unison)

In Christ, we are welcomed fully and enabled to exchange our fear with faith, our forgetfulness with the reassurance grounded in remembrance, our turning away with the possibility of turning toward our call and life more abundant than we might transform the world and all creation by the power of God's unconditional and all-encompassing love. With open hands and hearts, let us receive the peace of Christ's grace and peace this day. Amen.

Listening To the Sacred Text: Genesis 21:8-21 and Romans 6:1b-11

Anthem "Holy Spirit, Living Breath of God" arr. Larson
CCA Choir

Reflecting "Thanksgiving for life even when you feel like death"
Rev. Shelby Nowland

***Hymn of Reflection:** "Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven" Glory to God #619

Invitation to Generosity

Offertory Music "Adagio molto espressivo" from *Sonata No. 5* L. van Beethoven

***Doxology** (Tune: *Old Hundredth, New Century Hymnal #780*)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God, all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that love has done.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit One. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

Announcements

***Sending Song:** "Amen, syakudimisa" New Century Hymnal #760

***Benediction**

Postlude: "Scherzo" from *Sonata No. 5* L. van Beethoven

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

Leading In Today's Service:

Laura Martin, Director of Music Britt Hicks, Director of Online Ministries
Usher & Liturgist, Sarah Darter Jonathan Geer, Piano
Amy Harris, Violin