



An Open & Affirming Congregation in the United Church of Christ
Order of Worship for 8/20/2023
Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost
Rev. Amelia K. Fulbright, Transitional Pastor

Prelude

Welcome

Words for Centering: "For the Interim Time" by John O'Donohue

*"...What is being renewed here is your mind,
And it is difficult and slow to become new.
The more faithfully you can endure here,
The more refined your heart will become
For the arrival of the new dawn."*

*Hymn of Celebration: "Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether" New Century Hymnal #337

Invocation (liturgy by Rev. Dr. Elyse Berry)

*One: O God Embodied, the one made flesh who dwelt among us,
help us to arrive this morning with a "yes."*

A "yes" to our faith that says our bodies are good and holy, just as and however they are.

All: A "yes" to show up here, even if our minds may be in other places at times.

*One: A "yes" to believing enough in you, this community, and our own call to know this is where
we need to be in this moment.*

All: A "yes" to bringing all that comes from and through our hearts to you, O Heart-maker.

One: Come, let us bring ourselves to God's table of plenty,

All: With our inherent worth and dignity to guide us. Amen.

Listening To the Sacred Text: Matthew 15:21-28

Anthem "For the Beauty of the Earth" arr. T. Alonso
CCA Choir

Reflecting in Community

“Don’t Settle for Crumbs”

***Hymn of Reflection:**

“My Life Flows On in Endless Song”

New Century Hymnal #476

Invitation to Generosity

“How might we be abundant? And in what ways are we still in need?” ~ Rev. Dr. Elyse Berry

Offertory Music:

“Deep River”

Trad. Spiritual arr. W.A. Fischer

***Doxology** (Tune: *All Creatures of Our God & King, Glory to God #15*)

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**

Announcements

Deacon Presentation

Litany of Release

See Handout.

***Sending Song:**

“Blest Be the Tie That Binds”

Glory to God #306

***Benediction**

Postlude:

“Allegro” from *Kindertrio in G*

J. Klengel

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

Leading In Today’s Service:

Laura Martin, Director of Music

Sarah Darter, Usher & Liturgist

Amy Harris, Violin

Britt Hicks, Director of Online Ministries

Jonathan Geer, Piano

Robin Rosson, Cello