

# THE ORDER OF SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

*No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.*

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May 12, 2024 CONFIRMATION SUNDAY Ten O'clock AM

\* sitting or standing

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prayer requests will be collected during Prelude.

Welcome Cards are available in the chair pockets for you to communicate with the church.

## PRELUDE

*Abide with Me*

arr. Miller

## \* CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively):

Congregational response in **bold**

Jesus Christ, you come to renew us in the image of God:

**Shine in our darkness.**

Jesus Christ, light of our hearts, you know our thirst:

**Lead us to the wellspring of your gospel.**

Jesus Christ, light of the world, you shine in every human being:

**Enable us to discern your presence in each person.**

Jesus, Christ, friend of the poor:

**Open in us the gates of simplicity so that we can welcome you.**

Jesus Christ, you send your church to prepare your path in the world:

**Open for all people the gates of your kingdom.**

## \* OPENING PRAYER (unison):

**Gracious God, in the resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ, you have given us eternal life and glorified your name in all the world. Refresh our souls with the living streams of your truth, that in our unity, your joy may be complete. Amen.**

## \* HYMN #43 v. 1-2, 4

*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

Black Hymnal

## CONFIRMAND STATEMENT OF FAITH

### THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION

Amber Barber, Annika Bliss

Invitation

Questions of the Candidates

Congregational Affirmation of Faith (responsively):

One: Do you believe in God?

**All: I believe in God.**

One: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

**All: I believe in Jesus Christ.**

One: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**All: I believe in the Holy Spirit.**

Prayer of the Candidates

Prayer of the Congregation (unison):

**Almighty God, who in baptism received these your servants into the church, forgave their sins, and promised them eternal life, increase in them the gifts of your Holy Spirit. Grant love for others, joy in serving you, peace in disagreement, patience in suffering, kindness toward all people, goodness in evil times, faithfulness in temptation, gentleness in the face of opposition, self-control in all things. Thereby strengthen them for their ministry in the world; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

Act of Confirmation

Prayer of Confirmation

Question about Participation

Welcome (responsively):

One: Let us, the members of The Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, express our welcome and affirm our mutual ministry in Christ.

**All: We promise you our continuing friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.**

Greeting of Christian Love & Prayer

Benediction (responsively):

One: Go in the peace of Christ.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 1

and

SUNG RESPONSE:



## CHILDREN'S TIME

## SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 17:6-19

pg. 879

## MESSAGE

"Sanctified in Truth, Sent Into the World"

Rev. Andrew Greenhaw

MUSICAL INTERLUDE - Chancel Choir

*Amazing Grace*

Forman

## PEOPLE'S PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

(debts and debtors)

INVITATION TO SHARE - If you would like to support our ministry you can:

- Place your gift in the offering plates located at the entrances of the sanctuary
- Scan QR code on back or click on the PayPal icon found on our home page of [www.congoroch.org](http://www.congoroch.org)
- Mail your check written out to Congregational Church UCC, 974 Skyline Dr. SW, Rochester, MN 55902

\* OFFERTORY RESPONSE

**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

\* HYMN #351

*I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry*

Black Hymnal

\* COMMISSIONING (unison):

**Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness;**

**be of good courage;**

**hold fast to that which is good;**

**render to no one evil for evil,**

**strengthen the fainthearted;**

**support the weak; help the afflicted;**

**honor all people; love and serve God,**

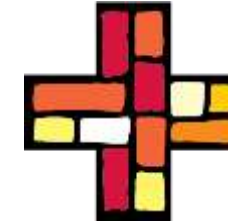
**rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.**

\* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE - Chancel Choir

*Total Praise*

Raney



THE  
CONGREGATIONAL  
CHURCH

United Church of Christ

AN OPEN & AFFIRMING CONGREGATION

MAY 12, 2024



WORSHIP LEADERS: Rev. Shannon Smith, Rev. Andrew Greenhaw  
 CONFIRMANTS & LITURGISTS: Amber Barber, Annika Bliss  
 MUSIC DIRECTOR: Karmen Gusa  
 ACCOMPANIST: Kathleen Thompson, organ; Jan Kvam, piano  
 CANTOR: Paul Pike

NURSERY - Room 16 on main level: Colleen Hofer  
 SUNDAY SCHOOL: Pastor Shannon - K-5<sup>th</sup> Grade in Room 21 following Children's Time  
 FLOWERS are given to the glory of God by Mark Young in honor of LaVonne's mother, Norma Meyer, and his mother, Mary Ann Young.  
 FELLOWSHIP TIME: Deb and Leon Ernster  
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**JOIN US NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 19** as we welcome **NEW MEMBERS**, recognize our **GRADUATES**, and have a **POTLUCK** during Fellowship Time. **To help us plan**, let us know you are attending by signing up on our events page: [www.congoroch.org/news-events](http://www.congoroch.org/news-events).



**WE ARE PARTAKING IN THE STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH OFFERING NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 19!** The Strengthen the Church offering supports the expansion of ministry and growth of UCC local congregations. This offering helps the UCC fulfill its commitment to creating a just world for all by investing in new ministries and practices that meet the emerging needs of local communities. The theme for this year is On Holy Ground.

**CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK**

Mon	5/13	8:00 AM	Gardening Angels
Tue	5/14	2:00 PM	Bible Study - Zoom
Wed	5/15	6:30 PM	Youth Group
Thu	5/16	12:00 PM	Bulletin & Announcement info due
Fri	5/17	12:00 PM	Summer Church Life deadline
		6-8 PM	Young Adult Fellowship - at church
Sat	5/18	12-5 PM	Rochester Pride at Soldier's Field

**YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP will meet Friday, May 17 from 6-8 PM** in Fellowship Hall to cook dinner and play games. Friends welcome! Contact Pastor Shannon for more information.

**SUMMER CHURCH LIFE ARTICLES DUE THIS WEEK** - Please send articles, updates and summer events to Sarah at [church@congoroch.org](mailto:church@congoroch.org) by **Friday, May 17**. Anything submitted in advance would be most helpful. We aim to mail the print edition by Memorial Day. Thank you!



**ROCHESTER PRIDE SIGN UP:** All are invited to sign up to represent our congregation at our booth at Rochester Pride on **Saturday, May 18 from Noon to 5:00 PM** (with set up and take down before and after). Sign-up using the link on our events page: [www.congoroch.org/news-events](http://www.congoroch.org/news-events). Shifts are 1 hour long but feel free to sign up for as many slots as you wish.

This is a very family friendly event so children and youth are also welcome in the booth! We are considering t-shirts so sign up right away! If you have any questions, email Nancy at [namzr79@gmail.com](mailto:namzr79@gmail.com).

**BOOK GROUP** meets on the 3rd Tuesday at 10:30 AM at church, plus a Zoom option for those who wish to join us from home. Book selection for **May 21** is "Dear Edward" by Napolitano and is available in the church office.

**HELP US GET READY FOR SUMMER PLAYGROUP!** Come help spruce up the playground on **Saturday, May 25 from 9 AM to Noon**. (Note date and time change from May 4) Our summer playgroup starts in June and there is much to be done to make our playground as welcoming as possible. All ages can help and childcare helpers will be on hand to guide the kids in some clean up tasks. Come for as long as you are able, all help is appreciated. Among the jobs we will be doing: setting up a sun sail, filling the sandbox, hanging new swings. Snacks, water and juice boxes provided.



**SHARING IN MINISTRY - THANKS TO ALL** who completed our survey. We had 33 responses and we already called on our volunteers for PrideFest and Gardening Angels. If you have not yet filled out a survey, please feel free to do so at any time. The yellow sheets are in the Narthex and our church website [www.congoroch.org](http://www.congoroch.org), under **Outreach**. We look forward to using everyone's talents to work together serving God, our community and our church.

**IN THE CITY FOR GOOD** - All are welcome on **Thursday, May 23 from 6:30 - 8:30 PM at Christ United Methodist Church** to hear guest presenters: Sarah Knispel, NAMI Minnesota, Public Policy Coordinator and Lee Fomella, Director of Education Programs NAMI Southeast Minnesota. Sarah Knispel and Lee Fomella will discuss the relationship between mental illness and housing and homelessness presented with facts and legislative actions. Additionally, they will share how we can approach, respect and treat our brothers and sisters around us suffering from mental illness. Sarah started as a Mental Health Specialist working with social well-being in the streets of Brooklyn. See flyer on the bulletin board.