



Sanctuary & Zoom Worship Service
5.5.24 – 10:30AM
Love One Another

Welcome to United! Thank you for joining us for worship today.

Welcome and Announcements

Andy Castro-Lang

Prelude:

O, the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus
April Kuhr, Piano

Lisa Hoekstra

*** Call to Worship:**

(Congregation reads **bold** text)

Ps. 98, Zen Inspired Translations of the Psalms by Norman Fischer

To you we sing a new song for you are full of wonders!

For you are coming to awaken all...

You, loving One, remember your kindness and faithfulness to those who struggle and question.

From all the far-flung lands a shout is raised up, it breaks forth into song, it erupts into praise!

Let the sea and all within it thunder, the world and all of life, let rivers clap their hands and mountains kick up their heels.

For you are coming! To awaken all, to establish justice and harmony everywhere!

***Opening Hymn:**

Help Us Accept Each Other (p. 4)

AURELIA

***Opening Prayer**

The gospel of John tells us that the command of Jesus is to love one another. We aren't given hundreds of commands, just this one, this mighty one. And Jesus declares that if we love enough to lay down our lives for one another, then we are more than co-workers in bringing God's design to life in the world...No...we are the friends of Jesus and the friends of God.

And friends share their hearts.

Friends share their hopes and fears, their successes and their heartbreaks, their laughter and jokes and joys.

Let's listen to one another as friends do, and care for ourselves and for all others, and for every bit of creation, as true friends do. Let's try to be the friends of Jesus and of God.

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

***Passing of the Peace:** May the Peace of Christ be with you.
And also with You.

Time on the Quilt AnnElise Fishel

Scripture: James 3: 5-6, 9-10, 13-18

Special Music: *Ubi Caritas* Ola Gjeilo
 The United Chancel Choir

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est./Where charity and love are, God is there.
 Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor./Christ's love has gathered us into one.
 Exultemus, et in ipso jucundemur./Let us rejoice and be pleased in Him.
 Timeamus, et amemus Deum vivum./Let us fear, and let us love the living God.
 Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero./And may we love each other with a sincere heart.

Sermon: Talk, Talk, Talk Andy Castro-Lang

Communion Hymn: *Where Charity and Love Prevail* (p. 5) CHRISTIAN LOVE

Communion:

Invitation to the Table

The Prayer of Jesus:

Mothering, Fathering, God;

You dwell within and above, surrounding all things, and we honor you.

May your kin-dom of love be built on this earth. With all of us knowing and being your teachers of love to all creation.

Give us bread, and hope, for living every day.

Teach us the true freedom of forgiving, and the joy of being forgiven.

Guide us away from all harmful temptations and protect us from evils both great and small. For you are the Creator of Creation, sustaining all things with your power, shining in the glory of eternal Love.

Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Words of Institution

Prayer of Dedication

Closing Hymn: *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ* (p. 6) LINSTEAD

Benediction

Rev. Andy Castro-Lang

Postlude: *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ* Arr. John A. Behnke
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*We invite you to stay and enjoy refreshments with us after the service. We hope
you come back again and let us get to know you!*

Love. Hope. United.

<http://www.theunitedchurches.org>

Office Hours: Monday – Thursday, 9 am – 3 pm
The office is CLOSED on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday

Help Us Accept Each Other

D G D A D Em7 D A D A

1 Help us ac - cept each oth - er as Christ ac - cept - ed us; teach
 2 Teach us, O Lord, your les - sons, as in our dai - ly life we
 3 Let your ac - cept - ance change us, so that we may be moved in
 4 Lord, for to - day's en - coun - ters with all who are in need, who

D F#7 G A G A D E7 A

us as sis - ter, broth - er each per - son to em - brace. Be
 strug - gle to be hu - man and search for hope and faith. Teach
 liv - ing sit - u - a - tions to do the truth in love; to
 hun - ger for ac - cept - ance, for right - eous - ness and bread, we

D A D G D Bm F#7 Bm B Em A

pres - ent, Lord, a - mong us and bring us to be - lieve we
 us to care for peo - ple, for all— not just for some, to
 prac - tice your ac - cept - ance un - til we know by heart the
 need new eyes for see - ing, new hands for hold - ing on: re -

D G D Gmaj7 Em G Em7 A D

are our - selves ac - cept - ed and meant to love and live.
 love them as we find them and as they may be - come.
 ta - ble of for - give - ness and laugh - ter's heal - ing art.
 new us with your Spir - it; Lord, free us, make us one!

Where Charity and Love Prevail



1. Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail,
 2. With grate - ful joy and ho - ly fear
 3. For - give we now each oth - er's faults
 4. Let strife a - mong us be un - known,
 5. Let us re - call that in our midst
 6. No race nor creed can love ex - clude



There God is ev - er found; Brought here to - geth - er
 God's char - i - ty we learn; Let us with heart and
 As we our faults con - fess; And let us love each
 Let all con - ten - tion cease; Be God's the glo - ry
 Dwells God's be - got - ten Son; As mem - bers of his
 If hon - ored be God's name; Our fam - i - ly em -



by Christ's love, By love are we thus bound.
 mind and soul Now love God in re - turn.
 oth - er well In Chris - tian ho - li - ness.
 that we seek, Be ours God's ho - ly peace.
 bod - y joined, We are in Christ made one.
 brac - es all Whose Fa - ther is the same.

LORD'S SUPPER

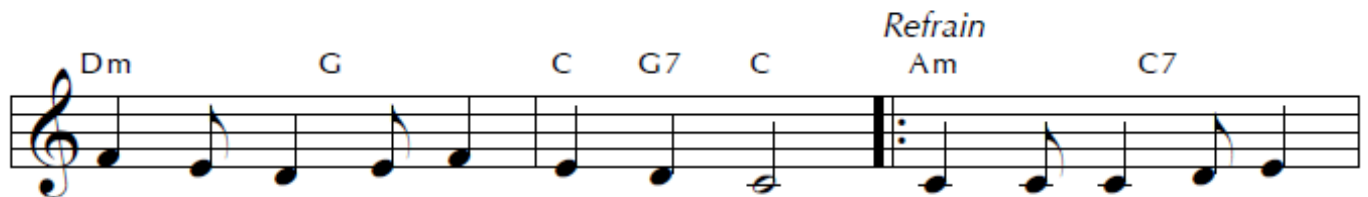
526 Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a
 2 Christ is a - ble to make us one; at the ta - ble he
 3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a



shout of joy: bread is bro - ken; the wine is poured;
 sets the tone, teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless,
 world of doubt, gives us love to tell, bread to share:



Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
 love in word and in deed ex - press. Je - sus lives a - gain;
 God (Im - man - u - el) ev - ery - where!



earth can breathe a - gain; pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

This "communion calypso" (as the author called it) affirms the continuing presence of Christ both in the sacramental meal and in the lives of Christians. Because this text was written to fit a pre-existing tune, it has a rather telegraphic style that encourages pondering.

TEXT: Fred Kaan, 1975

MUSIC: Jamaican folk melody; adapt. Doreen Potter, 1975
 Text and Music © 1975 Hope Publishing Company

LINSTEAD
 LM with refrain



Announcements for the Week of May 5, 2024

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK

[Zoom links are in the Weekly E-blast or call the office]

SUNDAY: May 5th

Communion

8:30 AM Worship service in the Chapel

10:30 AM Worship service in the Sanctuary and via Zoom

Monday, May 6th

1:00 PM Book Study in Room 213

6:30 PM First Monday – Small Group Presentation in the Fireside Room

Tuesday, May 7th

5:30 PM Youth Group Meeting in Room 213 – Game night

Wednesday, May 8th

10:45 AM Lively Lectionary in the Fireside Room – Note NEW TIME

12:15 PM “We Gotta Pray” 30 minute service in the Sanctuary

6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, May 9th

1:00 PM Thursdays Together in the Fireside Room – Games & Fellowship

6:30 PM Council Meeting in the Fireside Room

8:30 PM Centering Prayer via Zoom

Friday, May 10th

8:00 AM Men’s Breakfast

SUNDAY: May 12th

8:30 AM Worship service in the Chapel

10:30 AM Worship service in the Sanctuary and via Zoom

PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Barb Boyd’s son, James at Providence with a brain bleed.

Mike Charlesworth at Providence.

Eleanor van Noppen recovering at home.

Diane Charlesworth recovering at home.

Paul McCann recovering from shingles.

Keith Henderson for healing from pain.

Pat Sonnenstuhl’s, memorial service will be at Unitarian Universalist
Congregation on June 15 at 1pm.

Prayers for those with COVID and for their caregivers.

Ongoing Prayers: **Julie Clark, Janet Huntley, Karen LaFreniere, Tom Skjervold, Ellen Sweetin & Janet Tolman**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOTE: Please help us welcome **Rev. Andy CastroLang** as our sabbatical pastor, who will be working 2/3 time through June. **She will be available Sunday through Wednesday** and other times as circumstances require. How to contact Andy? Cell #: 509-998-7204 and email: andy@theunitedchurches.org

◆ Thurston HungerWalk – Today at 3pm

United Churches will be supporting the Thurston Hunger Walk again this year. We will be walking as a **Team**. The walk will begin at 3pm on **Sunday, May 5**, at Huntamer Park in Lacey. **But you don't need to walk to support!** You can donate by doing any of the following: donate via Realm, send a check to the church or pay in cash in an envelope with your name and Hungerwalk on it. Thank you for supporting those in need in our community.

◆ United's Monthly Food Drive

We are collecting non-perishable food to be delivered to the Thurston County Food Bank. Please drop off your items in a marked box in the Narthex.

◆ New Church Office Hours

With our current sabbatical staffing, we need to amend our church office hours to **Monday through Wednesday from 9:00-3:00 pm** with the office closed on Thursday and Friday. This change will allow the staff uninterrupted time on Thursday to complete more intense projects which are necessary for our church community to function. We appreciate the congregation's support of all our staff.

◆ NEW GROUP – Starts Tomorrow!

First Mondays of the month at 6:30 pm in the Fireside Room! Every month, a class or presentation will be led by someone in the congregation. The first meeting is **May 6** and will feature Debi Taylor-Hough, author of a number of books including Frugal Living for Dummies and the best-selling Frozen Assets series. The topic is Writers Write, Right? If interested in presenting at First Mondays, Contact **Debi Taylor-Hough** at dsimple@aol.com or 253-398-6461

◆ Parking at Church - Weekdays

If you come to church during the week, please park in a space marked **Church** in the upper lot. Numbered spaces are reserved for our parking tenants. You may

also park along the Sanctuary side in the lower lot. The spots next to the wall in the lower lot are reserved for our tenant, Interfaith Works. We will be resurfacing and restriping the lower lot in the coming weeks to aid in identification.

◆ **Small Groups – Join One Today**

Are you interested in joining a small group to connect with others? We have three groups that are currently meeting 2x/month on Monday and Thursday evenings and late afternoon on Tuesdays. If interested, contact **Jon Hubbell** jhubbell@juno.com (Mondays at 7pm), **Chas Dreyfus** chas.dreyfus@gmail.com (Tuesdays at 4pm) or **Joan E. Knapp** - joank16@gmail.com (Thursdays at 6:30pm). Joan also chairs **Caring Friends** which makes consistent connection with our Homebound members. Contact Joan for more information on joining this group as well.

◆ **Write Letters to Voters**

In May, the United Churches of Olympia and Olympia Indivisible are co-hosting two writing events here in the church chapel. If you are looking for a way to express your pro-democracy feelings, join us! Show up for cookies, carrots and camaraderie. On **May 14**, join us in writing postcards to voters from 4-6pm. Stamps or donations are appreciated. On **May 20**, we'll write Vote Forward Letters, to encourage young, inconsistent Arizonans to vote in important upcoming elections. RSVP to olyvoteforward@gmail.com and specify the event. Bring friends!

◆ **Pride 2024**

Community Connections Ministry is busy working on United's booth for the Pride weekend **Music and Arts Festival** on **Saturday, June 29**. United will also be participating in the **Pride Parade** on **Sunday, June 30** at 4:30 PM. Please contact **Elaine Lyford-Nojima**, elaineln@pacbell.net, if you're interested in helping to organize the Parade group. The youth group is designing Pride t-shirts to sell. More details to come.



◆ **Seeking Annual Stewardship Campaign Lead**

The Council is looking for someone or two people to lead our annual stewardship campaign. The commitment is time limited (June – November); Mark Clark (prior Chair) will be your guide. Contact **Kathleen Clark** at Kathleen.clark321@gmail.com if you are interested or have questions.

◆ **“We Gotta Pray” at United on Wednesdays – Join Us!**

“We Gotta Pray,” our Wednesday prayer service continues to gather from 12:15 – 12:45 in the sanctuary. Our service is a time of quiet singing, silent prayer, and contemplative meditation. In May and June, we will learn the practice of “Centering Prayer,” a form of Christian contemplative prayer to center awareness on the presence of God. For more information, contact April:

april@theunitedchurches.org or visit this

link: <https://www.contemplativeoutreach.org/download/method-of-centering-prayer-brochure/>.

◆ **Looking for Greeters for the 10:30am Service**

Do you like meeting new people? Would you like to volunteer one day a month? Consider being a greeter at the 10:30am service. Contact **Sue Poler** if interested: jspoler@comcast.net



Many thanks to **Jinny Beekmann, Dave Morris, Jennifer Laine, Vix Grosso, Lauren Grosso, Dana Leavitt, Matt Taron, Philip Taron, Charlie Taron, and Lauren Jenks** from the Green Team for participating in a workday outdoors at Pilgrim Firs in April. We made great progress on several projects to help the camp, including refinishing picnic tables, re-building some large flower pots, pressure washing, hanging wasp traps, and building a retaining wall.

Thanks also to **Elaine Lyford-Nojima, Marcia McLaughlin, Jennifer Carmer-Hall, April Kuhr, and Pastor Andy** for organizing and leading the very moving and healing Breaking the Silence service last Sunday. Finally, a big thank you to **Dan Meuse** for his beautiful bassoon solo.



◆ **United’s COVID Policy**

If you have any COVID symptoms such as fever, cough or sore throat, please take care and join us for our Zoom service at 10:30am.

◆ **SAVE THE DATE**

May 14 – Postcard writing party

May 20 – Write letters to Voters

June 29 – Olympia Pride Festival

June 30 – Pride Sunday & Oly Pride Parade

Aug 17 – Church Yard Sale

Aug 23-25 – Pilgrim Firs Retreat