



St. Vincent UCC Worship Service

Discipleship Sunday / August 14, 2022

* = please stand if able

Pastor's Greeting / Prelude Music



*** Call To Worship:**

Pastor: Our loving God created all things and all people and declared that all of it is good.

People: **We thank you, O God, for creating us in your image and making us new every day so that we can reflect your goodness in all that we say and do to your greater glory.** at

Pastor: Let us show our gratitude to God as we sing our first hymn together.

*** Hymn:** **“The Church's One Foundation“** (verses 1, 2, & 4) (# 386, UCC Hymnal)

The Church's one foundation is Jesus Christ, our Lord;
we are Christ's new creation by water and the Word.
From heaven Christ came and sought us in love to set us free
with precious blood Christ bought us for all eternity.

*Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth;
one charter of salvation, one God, one faith, one birth.
One name together blessing - one holy food we share,
To one hope we are pressing, at one in work and prayer.*

Yet we on earth have union with God, the Three-in-One;
and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won.
O happy ones and holy – God, give us grace that we
Like them, the meek and lowly, may live eternally.

*** Call To Prayer:**

God is here – come to meet us in this time of worship - to nourish our spirits and inspire our souls and lead us forward in our mission to do his work in our own time and place. Let us open our hearts and minds to God as we pray together about that ...

*** Unison Prayer:**

Holy One, though the first disciples did not always understand the ways of Jesus, they put their trust in him and dared to follow as best they could. We also want to follow his ways of love. So, we ask for your help to be daring disciples as well. Help strengthen our faith and guide us in all that we say and do – for we long to please you and fulfill your plans for the world. We pray this in the name of Jesus. Amen.

*** Assurance:**

God calls us and empowers us to share his love with others. We belong to God now and always – let us, then, delight in doing his will for the sake of good for all people. With joy, let us affirm our faith and sing our response together ...

*** Affirmation of Faith:**

We believe in God the Father, maker of all things. We believe in his Son Jesus Christ, Lord and Savior of the world. We believe in the Holy Spirit, giver of life and light. We belong to the Church, God's family everywhere. Amen

*** Sung Response:** **“Sanctuary”** (sing through 2x's) (# 2164, Praise Book)

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary - pure and holy, tried and true.
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you.

Liturgist: We now turn our hearts and minds to the reading of God's Holy Scripture. Today's reading can be found in the Gospel according to Luke, chapter 12, verses 49-56 where Jesus talks about the cause of division among people and interpreting the present time.

Let us pray: Gracious God, we praise you for your care and mercy for all people. Help us to be as compassionate as you in our own lives. Now, we ask that you be with us in this reading of your Holy Scripture – so that we might grow in the hearing and reflection. Amen.

Reading: Luke 12: 49-56

Jesus was talking with his followers about being faithful and daring disciples on his behalf and said, "I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed!

Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! From now on, five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; they will be divided: father against son, and son against father; mother against daughter, and daughter against mother; mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law, and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

And he also said this about interpreting the time to those gathered there, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, 'It is going to rain'; and so it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat'; and it happens.

You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time? Why do you not judge for yourselves what is right?"

Liturgist: Here ends the reading of God's Holy Scripture. May God bless us with understanding and may we show our understanding in the way we live our lives. Amen.

Hymn Intro: Let's now sing our middle hymn, "As the Deer".

Hymn: **"As The Deer"** (Sing through 2X) (# 2025, Praise Book)

As the deer pants for the water, so my soul longs after you.
You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you.
You alone are my strength, my shield; to you alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my hearts' desire, and I long to worship you.

Pastor's Message: **"Answering the Call"**

Sung Response: **"More Like You"** (# 2167, Praise Book)

More like you, Jesus, more like you. Fill my heart with your desire to make me more like you.
More like you, Jesus, more like you. Touch my lips with holy fire and make me more like you.

*Lord, you are my mercy. Lord, you are my grace. All my deepest sins have forever been erased.
Draw me in your presence, Lead me in your ways, I long to bring you glory in righteousness and praise.*

More like you, Jesus, more like you. Fill my heart with your desire to make me more like you.
More like you, Jesus, more like you. Touch my lips with holy fire and make me more like you.

Prayer Concerns, Birthday & Anniversary Celebrations, and Announcements

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer: Now, let us pray together as Jesus has taught us to say ...

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Offering Invitation:

God has blessed us with all that we have. And we are called to catch the spirit of his generosity and live into it in our own lives. Let us begin by giving back to God a portion of what he has given us. With joy and thanksgiving, let us present our morning offering.

Offertory

Doxology:

(# 780, Hymnal)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above, you heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Dedication:

O God, most merciful and gracious, of whose bounty we have all received, we ask that you accept this offering of your people. Remember in your love those who have brought it and those for whom it is given; and so follow it with your blessing that it may promote peace and goodwill among all people and advance the realm of our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

* **Hymn:** **“Jesus Shall Reign”** (Verses 1, 3, & 5) (# 300, UCC Hymnal)

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun,
Does its successive journeys run;
God's realm shall stretch from shore to shore
Till moons shall wax and wane no more.

*People and realms of every tongue,
Dwell on God's love with sweetest song;
And infant voices shall proclaim
Their earliest prayers in Jesus' name.*

Let every creature rise and bring
Tributes of praise for all to sing;
Angels descend with songs again,
And earth repeat the loud Amen.

* **Benediction:**

May Christ so dwell within each one of us that we will go forth from this time of worship with the light of hope in our eyes, the fire of inspiration in our words, and the love of God expressed through all that we say and do. Glory be to God now and for evermore. Amen.

* **Sung Response:** **“I Have Decided To Follow Jesus”** (# 2129, Praise Book)

I have decided to follow Jesus, I have decided to follow Jesus,
I have decided to follow Jesus – no turning back, no turning back!

* **Postlude Music**