



St. Vincent UCC Worship Service
Guest Pastor, the Rev. Kevin McLemore
Associate Conference Minister of PSEC
August 21, 2022
* = please stand if able



"Moonrise"
by Vincent Van Gogh

Musical Interlude

Greeting from Consistory President & Introduction of Guest Pastor: *Brenda McFadden*
Prelude Music : *Deb Rick*

*** Call To Worship:**

Pastor: People of God, it is a good thing to gather and worship God!

People: **Friends, strangers, God is surely worthy of worship at all times.**

Pastor: Now is the time to center we on who and what really matters:

People: **and who matters is the living God and what matters is how to respond to love and gift of Jesus Christ!**

Pastor: Let us join our voices together in singing our first hymn.

*** Hymn:** "Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior" (# 551, UCC Hymnal)

Pass me not, O gentle Savior, hear my humble cry,
While on others you art calling, do not pass me by.
Savior, Savior, hear my humble cry;
While on others you are calling, do not pass me by.
*Let me at your throne of mercy find a sweet relief;
Kneeling there in deep contrition, help my unbelief.*
Savior, Savior, hear my humble cry;
While on others you are calling, do not pass me by.
Trusting only in your merit, would I seek your face;
Heal my wounded, broken spirit, save me by your grace.
Savior, Savior, hear my humble cry;
While on others you are calling, do not pass me by.
*Be the Spring of all my comfort, more than life to me,
Not just here on earth beside me, but eternally.*
Savior, Savior, hear my humble cry;
While on others you are calling, do not pass me by.

*** Call To Prayer:** Indeed, the time for prayer is always now, even in the midst of our doing, our working, our living, and our loving. Let us pray together, using the prayer in the bulletin.

*** Unison Prayer:**

Living God, we thank you for the good gifts of time, healing, and the possibility of wholeness. We also ask forgiveness for those times when we did not use the time given to us to do the right and just thing. For those moments we used words and actions to hurt rather than heal, forgive us. For those minutes populated with resentment and grievance rather than gratitude and forgiveness, forgive us. For the ways we have embraced our brokenness rather than possibility of healing, forgive us. For all things, done and undone, we ask for mercy, forgiveness, and a new beginning. In the name of the Christ, Amen.

*** Assurance:** God is good. Let us, then, affirm our faith in the goodness of our God. Together, let us say the words from the New Zealand Book of Prayer as today's Affirmation of Faith ...

*** Affirmation of Faith:**

You, O God, are supreme and holy. You create our world and give us life. Your purpose overarches everything we do. You have always been with us. You are God. You, O God, are infinitely generous, good beyond all measure. You came to us before we came to you. You have revealed and proved your love for us in Jesus Christ, who lived, and died and rose again. You are with us now. You are God. You, O God, are Holy Spirit. You empower us to be your gospel in the world. You reconcile and heal; you overcome death. You are our God. We worship you.

*** Sung Response:** "Sanctuary" (Sing 2 times) (# 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.

Scripture Reading

Liturgist = Brenda McFadden

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 of Luke, chapter 13, verses 10-17 where we hear about Jesus healing a woman, but then being questioned the timing of that healing.

Let us pray: Holy God, you meet us in every moment of our lives and help us live better, if we only ask. Give us the will and spirit to live faithfully as we now hear it described in Holy Scripture. Amen.

Reading: Luke 13: 10-17 (Common English Bible)

10 Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. 11 A woman was there who had been disabled by a spirit for eighteen years. She was bent over and couldn't stand up straight. 12 When he saw her, Jesus called her to him and said, "Woman, you are set free from your sickness." 13 He placed his hands on her and she straightened up at once and praised God. 14 The synagogue leader, incensed that Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, responded, "There are six days during which work is permitted. Come and be healed on those days, not on the Sabbath day." 15 The Lord replied, "Hypocrites! Don't each of you on the Sabbath untie your ox or donkey from its stall and lead it out to get a drink? 16 Then isn't it necessary that this woman, a daughter of Abraham, bound by Satan for eighteen long years, be set free from her bondage on the Sabbath day?" 17 When he said these things, all his opponents were put to shame, but all those in the crowd rejoiced at all the extraordinary things he was doing.

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 Introduction: Let's now sing our middle hymn, "Called As Partners in Christ's Service".

Hymn: "Called As Partners in Christ's Service" (# 495, UCC Hymnal)

Called as partners in Christ's service, called to ministries of grace.
We respond with deep commitment fresh new lines of faith to trace.
May we learn the art of sharing, side by side and friend with friend.
Equal partners in our caring to fulfill God's chosen end.

*Christ's example, Christ's inspiring, Christ's clear call to work and worth,
Let us follow, never faltering, reconciling folk on earth.*

*Men and women, richer, poorer, all God's people, young and old,
Blending human skills together gracious gifts from God unfold.*

Thus new patterns for Christ's mission, in a small or global sense,
Help us bear each other's burdens, breaking down each wall or fence.
Words of comfort, words of vision, words of challenge, said with care,
Bringing new power and strength for action, make us colleagues, free and fair.

*So God grant us for tomorrow ways to order human life
That surround each person's sorrow with a calm that conquers strife
Make us partners in our living, our compassion to increase,
Messengers of faith, thus giving hope and confidence and peace.*

Pastor's Message: "When Is The Right Time To Do The Right Thing?"

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:

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 is good to us and asks of us to be good to one another. Let us, then, share our offerings to be used for God's good purpose.

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:** "Let us pray together the words of our dedication..."

Gracious God, we give thanks to you for the blessings we have received. We now give back a portion of them for your purpose. Bless them according to your will, for we present them with joy in the name of Jesus. Amen.

*** Hymn:** "Unite and Join Your Cheerful Songs" (# 617, UCC Hymnal)

Unite and join your cheerful songs, with angels 'round the throne;
Ten thousand thousand are their tongues, yet all their joys are one.

This is the way the church should strive, in harmony below;

As members of one body live, one Sovereign shall you know.

Worthy the Lamb, the angels say, to be exalted thus;

Amen, amen the saints reply, the Lamb was slain for us.

Assist us, all above the sky, on earth, and on the seas;

Unite and raise God's honors high, in hymns of endless praise.

*** Benediction / 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**