



# St. Vincent UCC Worship Service

Wellness Sunday / May 22, 2022

\* = please stand if able



## Prelude Music / Pastor's Greeting

### \* Call To Worship:

**Pastor:** We gather in God's Spirit, remembering all he has done for us.

**People:** God gives good things to us so that we may live happy and healthy and whole lives.

**Pastor:** Let us then, worship God this happy day and let us begin by singing together our first hymn.

\* **Hymn:** "Come, O Fount of Every Blessing" (# 459, UCC Hymnal)

Come, thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above.  
Praise the mount I'm fixed upon it mount of God's unfailing love.

*Here I pause in my sojourning, giving thanks for having come;  
come to trust,, at every turning, God will guide me safely home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;  
Came to rescue me from danger, blessed body, precious blood.*

O to grace how great a debtor, daily I am drawn anew!  
Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to you.  
Prone to wander, I can feel it, wander from the love I've known,  
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for your very own.

\* **Call to Prayer:** Let us pray together using our prayer printed in the bulletin.

### \* Unison Prayer:

**Holy God, we come before you today knowing that you will always love us and help us when we put our trust in you and follow the ways of your Son Jesus. Be with us and inspire us to give to you our whole hearts and minds and spirits – so that we might become more like you and your our Savior, Jesus. Amen.**

\* **Assurance:** Be assured that nothing will keep us from God's love if our hearts are intent on following his ways. We are blessed, indeed, and called to be a blessing to all whom we meet. In gratitude, let us then join our voices together in affirming our faith ...

\* **Affirmation of Faith:** We are the people of God – his hands and heart and voices on the earth in this time and place. We are brothers and sisters in Christ - evidence of God's continued presence in the world. We believe in our God, we believe in God's goodness, and the power of God's love. We believe in Christ and his presence in our lives, and that we will recognize Christ in one another. We believe in the Holy Spirit, who moves among God's people and inspires us to bring God's reign more fully into our world. We are the people of God and we believe that our church is part of God's eternal plan. May all that we say and do help to fulfill God's hopes and dreams for us and the world in which we live. Amen.

(please be seated)

**Children's Time:** "Here's Looking at You, Kid"

**Liturgist:** We now turn our hearts and minds to the reading of God's Holy Scripture. Our reading today comes from the Gospel of John, chapter 5, verses 1-9, where we hear a story of healing.

**Let us pray:** Holy God, be with us now in the reading of your Holy Scripture and help us to understand your message so that we might know you more fully and follow you ways more completely. Amen.

**Reading: John 5: 1-9**

After this there was a festival of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. Now in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate there is a pool, called in Hebrew Beth-zatha, which has five porticoes. In these porticoes, there lay many invalids—blind, lame, and paralyzed. One man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years.

When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had been there a long time, he said to him, 'Do you want to be made well?'

The sick man answered him, 'Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; and while I am making my way, someone else steps down ahead of me.'

Jesus said to him, 'Stand up, take your mat and walk.' At once the man was made well, and he took up his mat and began to walk. Now that day was a Sabbath.

**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:** Now, let us remain seated as we sing our hymn, "I'm So Glad, Jesus Lifted Me"

**Hymn:** "I'm So Glad, Jesus Lifted Me" (# 474, UCC Hymnal)

I'm so glad, Jesus lifted me. *I'm so glad, Jesus lifted me.*  
I'm so glad, Jesus lifted me – singing glory, hallelujah, Jesus lifted me.

*Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me. Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me.*  
*Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me – singing glory, hallelujah, Jesus lifted me.*

When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me. When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me.  
When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me – singing glory, hallelujah, Jesus lifted me.

**Pastor's Message:** "Be Well – Being Your Own Hero"

**Special Music by St. Vincent Choir**

**Prayer Concerns, Birthday Celebrations, and Announcements**

*Keeping all of these concerns in our hearts and minds, let us pause for our Pastoral Prayer*

**Pastoral Prayer / Lord's Prayer:** We pray all this in the name of Jesus, who taught us also to pray together saying ...**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 – let us then give back to God a portion of those blessings now in the form of our morning offering.

## Offertory

\* **Doxology:** (# 780, UCC 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, bless now these gifts set before you as symbols of our love for you. Use them, and us, according to your purpose to bring healing and hope and happiness to those in need. We dedicate them in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

*Now, let's sing together our final hymn*

\* **Hymn:** "Rejoice, You Pure in Heart" (verses 1, 2, & 3) (# 55, UCC Hymnal)

*Rejoice, you pure in heart; lift praises to the sky; your festal banner wave with joy,  
the cross of Christ raise high! Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks and sing!*

Bright youth and seasoned age, strong souls and spirits meek, raise high your free, exulting song,  
God's wondrous praises speak. Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks and sing!

*With voice as full and strong as ocean's surging praise, send forth the hymns the saints have loved,  
the psalms of ancient days. Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks and sing!*

\* **Benediction:** May the Lord who brings healing and hope - bless and keep you. May his face shine upon you and be gracious to you. May he look upon you with kindness and give you peace – all the days of your life. Amen.

\* **Sung Response:** "Rejoice You Pure in Heart" (verse 5) (# 55, UCC Hymnal)

Praise God who rules all worlds, the risen Christ adore, praise God the Spirit, Holy Fire,  
one God for evermore! Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks and sing!

## Postlude Music

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*Don't forget – if you have a member of your family or friends who are graduating this Spring,  
please send that information to the church office or Pastor Susan so that we can include them in our  
June newsletter and lift them up during our Graduate Sunday next month. Thank You!*

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Today is our last scheduled Blanket Making / Fellowship Time after Worship.  
Please join us downstairs if you'd like to help finish our blankets for One Run Organization.