

February 25, 2024
2ND SUNDAY IN LENT

Greeting and Announcements

Welcome Statement *(Printed on the bulletin insert)*

Silence *...a time to breathe...*

Prelude and Bringing in the Light

Call to Worship

Leader: In the Beginning God said, "Let there be light."

People: And there was light and it was good!

L: All week God said, "Let there be! Let there be! Let there be!"

P: And all that God made was Good!

L: Then God took a breath and looked around and said,

P: Look what I've done! It's all Very! Very! Good!!

* **1st Hymn** *Sing Now a New Song* (on screen)

• **Prayer (Unison)**

Creator God, you have given us a world overflowing with beauty. Forgive us for what we have spoiled. You have created a world of abundance. Forgive us for what we have hoarded. You have given us each other, this wild variety of shapes and hues and beliefs. Forgive us for what we have divided. Open our eyes to what you saw at the beginning—the indeed goodness of this wonderful world. Amen.

* **The Promise**

Here is the gospel—the good news: God loves this world; God has redeemed this world; God is re-making this world. In this *we* are being made whole, and for this we all say—

Thanks be to God!

* **Sung Response**

*Breathe on me breath of God; fill me with life anew
That I may love what you do love, and do what you would do.*

Invitation to the Table

Without exception, everyone is welcome at this table. So if you're hungry, or even just curious, please come and taste.

Kid's Time *Life Is a Web / Walk Lightly Now* Ken Lonnquist

1st Scripture Reading **Genesis 1:31**

Patchwork World Ken Lonnquist

2nd Scripture Reading **Genesis 2:4-9,15**

...to till and to keep...

Sermon

This Land Is Your Land Ken Lonnquist

Prayers of the people and the Lord's Prayer

Offering *Weave* Ken Lonnquist

• **Sung Response**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow...

• **Gratitude Prayer (Unison)**

Open our hearts, Loving God, to neighbors near and far, neighbors new and old, neighbors strange and familiar. May your generosity flow freely through us to bless them we pray, in Jesus' name. Amen.

* **Closing Hymn** *God Bless the Air* (on Screen)

Special Gratitude Offering for Ken Lonnquist

* **Benediction** *Peace Blessing* Ken Lonnquist

• **Postlude**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgists: Jamie Wittwer

Radio Sponsor:

First UCC Welcome Statement:

“Accept one another, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God.”
Romans 15:7

We at First United Church of Christ—Sauk City have been embraced by the inclusive love of Jesus, and so we strive, as an Open and Affirming congregation, to be a welcoming presence in Sauk City and beyond. We invite anyone and everyone to worship and serve with us. *Everyone* who covenants with us to “do justice, love kindness and walk humbly” in the way of Jesus will be a valued member of this fellowship—without regard to sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, race, or faith background.

If you would like to sponsor a radio broadcast call the church office at 608-643-8387 to check on available dates. Cost is now at \$90.00/week. Your support of this important ministry is much appreciated.

Here are the available dates for March:

Mar 3: Sharal Steuber

March 10: Steve and Marcy Thurwachter; Sharon, Kelsey & Owen Diehl

March 17: Open

March 24: Open

March 31: Open

Address Changes—If your phone number, mailing or email address changes please send the new address to the church office so we can keep our records up to date.

From Members in Ministry—if you know someone who would benefit from a visit or phone call, or who would like to receive

Communion in their home, please let Debbie Tschudy know. Call her at: (608) 963-4873.

From our Stock the Schools campaign—suggested donations for February: *Food items:* Ritz-type crackers. *Supplies:* Soap and women’s and men’s deodorant. Please drop your donations off in the red tote outside the educational doors during office hours (Monday—Friday, 8am—Noon) or inside during Sunday worship. Thanks for your help.

Join us in the Fireside Room after the Worship Service today for a conversation with Shirlee Lendved when we will discuss ways we can all be more involved in caring for each other and this beautiful Creation we live in and depend on.

And since you gotta eat anyway, join us for our second Lenten soup and bread supper on Wednesday evening, February 28, at 5:30 in the Fireside Room. The “Christian Weirdness” topic for that evening will be “Communion—What is it? Why do we do it? What might it mean?”

At the end of our service this morning we will be receiving a free will offering to express our appreciation for the gift of music Ken Lonnquist is bringing to us today. When the plate comes around for a second time, please be as generous as you can.

1st Scripture Reading

Genesis 1:31

God saw everything that God had made, and indeed, it was very good.

2nd Scripture Reading

Genesis 2:4-9, 15

In the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens, when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up... the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being. And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the man whom he had formed. Out of the ground the Lord God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it.