

August 6, 2023

"ORDINARY" TIME

Greeting

Welcome Statement *(Printed on the bulletin insert)*

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

Prelude and Bringing in the Light

* Call to Worship *Isaiah 55:6-9*

L: Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near;

P: Let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

L: For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

* 1st Hymn *Be Still, My Soul* (NCH #488)

• Morning Prayer (Unison)

God, more gracious than we can imagine and more generous than we deserve, gratitude for your goodness brings us to worship and fellowship this morning. Some of us have full hearts today and some of us are running on empty. Some of us are safe while others are uncertain what will come next. Some of us are well and some of us have minds or bodies rebelling against good health. Holy One, who knows our faces and remembers our names, speak by your Spirit words of comfort where they are needed and words of correction to help us do better. This morning open our hearts to listen, our feet to move and our hands to act for the good of this world you have loved so well and redeemed so fully we pray. Amen.

* Assurance: *"As the heavens are high above the earth..."*

Thanks be to God!

* Sung Response

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

Announcements

Offering

Offertory

• Sung Response *Praise God from whom all blessings flow...*

• Gratitude Prayer (Unison)

With thanksgiving and praise we bring our offerings to you. Use these gifts aid the hands that heal and the hearts that reconcile. Use us to shine the light of grace into the night around us and to be the blessing you desire for the world you love. We pray, as always, in Jesus name. Amen.

Kid's Time

1st Scripture Reading

Psalm 103:8-13

Special Music

The Lord's Prayer

Sherri Roberts

2nd Scripture Reading

Ephesians 2:8

Sermon

Invitation to the Table *Come and Taste*

*This a table set for every person
Never bound by border or by wall...*

If you're hungry, or even just curious, please come and eat.

Prayers of the people and the Lord's Prayer

* Closing Hymn

What a Wonderful World

(On Screen)

* Benediction

Postlude

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgists: Rose Kleinert & Emily Fuchs

Radio Sponsor: Jane Litscher in memory of her father, Lloyd Gruber

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.

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.

The Communion table at this church is open to everybody—whether you believe, want to believe or can't believe as we do you are welcome to your share the bread and juice at Jesus' table. Whoever you are, whatever brought you here, however you identify, whoever you love, whatever your circumstances, whether you are hungry or just curious, Jesus himself invites you to this table.

Questions? Concerns? Perplexed? Thirsty for some good coffee? Give a call and we'll find a table at a coffee shop where we can talk for a while. (608) 669—2926 Pastor Brad

Our Pride Coffee Sale continues. First Church and John Joseph Coffee are collaborating on a fund raising effort on behalf of community organizations creating safe spaces for LGBTQ+ youth. Check out the table in the foyer and buy a bag (or two).

Drink Good, Do Good.

From our Stock the Schools campaign—suggested donations for August: *Food items:* Granola Bars. *Personal items:* Markers, folders and glue sticks. 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.

First UCC Welcome Statement:

“Accept one another, just as Christ accepted you...” (Romans 15:7)

First United Church of Christ—Sauk City is an Open and Affirming congregation. We have witnessed the inclusive love of God in Jesus and we seek to be an expression of that love. We welcome all into our covenant to “do justice, to love kindness and to walk humbly” in the way of Jesus—whoever you are, whatever brought you here, however you identify, whoever you love, whatever your circumstances. Every part of you is precious to God, and all of who you are is welcome here at First United Church of Christ.

First Scripture Reading:

Psalm 103:8-13

The Lord is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love...
God does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.
For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is God's steadfast love towards those who fear him;
as far as the east is from the west,
so far God removes our transgressions from us.
As a father has compassion for his children,
so the Lord has compassion for us.

Second Scripture Reading:

Ephesians 2:8

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God

The goal of Child Protective Services is to support parents and caregivers in making necessary changes so children are safe and protected in their homes. Below is a wish list of items they need to fulfill their mission.

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"Joyful Gifts"



*Children are our hope, our joy, our future.
Every child is a story yet to be told.*

Sauk County CPS Wish List of items frequently needed:

Household safety devices:

- Baby Gates
- Door/Window Alarms
- Cabinet Locks
- Outlet Covers
- Corner Protectors
- Baby Monitors

Diapering Supplies:

- Diapers (Sizes 2 & 3)
- Pull-Ups (Sizes 4 & 5)
- Baby Wipes

Convertible Car Seats
Portable Playard/Playpen





Monetary gifts are accepted

We invite you to fill the bassinet with these now or gently used items.

This project is in conjunction with
Sauk County Child Protective Services (CPS)

Thank you for your participation!



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