

September 4, 2022
13th Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude Music and Bringing in the Light

Greeting and Announcements

Welcome Statement *(Printed on the bulletin insert)*

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

*** Call to Worship** *(adapted from Psalm 11)*

Leader: In the Lord I take refuge.

***People:* If the foundations are destroyed,
what can the righteous do?**

Leader: The Lord is in his holy temple;
the Lord's throne is in heaven.
His eyes behold, his gaze examines humankind.

***People:* The Lord tests the righteous and the wicked,
and his soul hates the lover of violence.**

Leader: For the Lord is righteous;
he loves righteous deeds;
the upright shall behold his face.

***All:* Before God we come to worship.**

*** 1st Hymn** **There's a Wideness in God's Mercy** (NCH #23)

*** Prayer (Unison)**

Holy One, there is much dis-ease among us these days. We and our neighbors walk a knife's edge between love and hate, between peace and violence. Much of what we treasure is in danger of being lost to us and to our children. And we are so often afraid; uncertain of the future, uncertain of how we should live. You have told us, Loving God—*many times*—not to fear, to hold each other close, to overcome evil with good. We don't know how to do this. So we pray this morning that you will breathe into us the Spirit peace, of trust, and of hope.

Help our unbelief. Hold us in your heart. Walk with us each step of our way. Amen.

*** Assurance:**

Anyone who is in Christ, St Paul said, has become a new creation altogether. The old is finished and gone. Everything has become new. This is the gospel of God's grace by which we are redeemed and made whole and for which we all say:

Thanks be to God!

*** Gloria Patri**

Children's Story

1st Scripture Reading

Mark 12:28-31

2nd Scripture Reading

John 15:12

Sermon

Invitation to the Table

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

Prayers of the people and the Lord's Prayer

Offering

Offertory

*** Doxology**

*** Closing Hymn** **In Christ There Is No East or West** (NCH #395)

*** Benediction** *May the Lord bless you and keep you
May the Lord make his face to shine upon you
May the Lord lift up his countenance upon you,
and give you peace.*

Postlude

*** Please stand if you are able**

"It is not the task of Christianity to provide easy answers to every question, but rather to awaken us to the mystery of God. For God is not so much the object of our knowledge as the cause of our daily wonder."
~ Kallistos Ware

CALENDAR OF EVENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Before everything, and after everything you do remember:

Be Kind!
We are all human.

Liturgist: Tammie Huerth & Lois Pieper

Radio Sponsor: Cliff and Jan Lawton in memory of their sons Jason Barry and Russel Lawton

Announcements:

Welcome Statement:

"Come to me," Jesus said, "all who are weary and carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest"
(Matthew 11:28)

Reflecting the friendship of God toward all Creation, First United Church of Christ—Sauk City is an Open and Affirming congregation. We welcome all persons—those of all sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions, races, ages, family structures, faith backgrounds, abilities and economic circumstances. We recognize all as children of God, welcome all to worship and serve with us and consider all who come to be a necessary part of this fellowship with all its privileges and responsibilities.

Mark 12:28-31

One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, 'Which commandment is the first of all?' Jesus answered, 'The first is, "Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.'" The second is this, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." There is no other commandment greater than these.'

John 15:12

This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.