

May 26, 2024

Trinity Sunday

Procession of flags into the Sanctuary

Greeting & Announcements

Welcome Statement *(Printed on the bulletin insert)*

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

Prelude and Bringing in the Light

*** Call to Worship** *Based on Romans 13:8-14 and Matthew 18:15-20*

Leader: People of God, open your eyes! Look around!

People: **The presence of our Lord Jesus Christ is here – among us and within us.**

Leader: God's salvation is close at hand – nearer than you know.

People: **So open your hearts and minds to the Spirit, and let's worship God together!**

*** Hymn** **How Great Thou Art** *words are on the screen*

* Morning Prayer

Source of all truth, help me to hunger for truth, even if it upsets, modifies, or overturns what I already think is true. Guide me into all the truth I can bear. And stretch me to bear it more, so that I may always choose the whole truth, even with disruption, over half-truths with self-deception. Grant me passion to follow wisdom wherever it leads. Amen.

*** The Promise** *adapted from Psalm 146*

Happy are those whose hope is in the Lord their God, who keeps faith forever, who executes justice for the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry. The Lord opens the eyes of the blind. The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down. The Lord loves the righteous. For this, we all say out loud...

Thanks be to God!

* Sung Response

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful, in the Lord I will rejoice!

Look to God, do not be afraid. Lift up your voices the Lord is near.

Lift up your voices the Lord is near.

Offering *When Giving Is All We Have* **Alberto Rios**

Offertory

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

* Gratitude Prayer (Unison)

Open our hearts, Loving God, to receive all you have to give us; and then open our hands to give it all away. Shape us into generous people. Teach us to live by your grace and for those you love we pray, in Jesus' name. Amen.

*** Hymn** **Great is Your Faithfulness** *NCH#423*

1st Scripture Reading **Isaiah 5:15-23**

2nd Scripture Reading **Matthew 7:1-5**

Sermon *Learning How to See*

Prayers of the people and the Lord's Prayer

*** Closing Hymn** **Amazing Grace** *NCH#547*

*** Benediction** **Romans 15: 5-6**

May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may, with one voice, glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen. Now go in peace to serve the Lord!

Recession of flags & Postlude

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist: Peggy Ganser

Radio Sponsor: Sharla Steuber in honor and recognition of our Sunday School Superintendent, Margaret McFarlane.

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 me a call and we'll find a table at a coffee shop where we can talk for a while. (608) 669-2926 Pastor Brad

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 May: *Food items:* Granola bars. *Personal items:* Toothbrushes and full-size toothpaste. Your generous donations are greatly appreciated. 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:

“Come to me,” Jesus said, “all who are weary...” (Matthew 11:28)

First United Church of Christ—Sauk City is an Open and Affirming congregation. This is what “Everyone Is Welcome!” means *to us*: Whoever you are, whatever your story, however you identify, whomever you love, we would value your friendship and welcome you into our community. Every part of you is precious to God, and all of who you are is welcome at First United Church of Christ. So come to worship and to be nourished by the bread and cup at the Jesus' table. Stay to serve Sauk City and beyond. We are looking forward to getting acquainted.

First Scripture Reading:**Isaih 5:8-12,15-23**

Ah, you who join house to house, who add field to field, until there is room for no one but you, and you are left to live alone in the midst of the land! The Lord of hosts has sworn in my hearing: Surely many houses shall be desolate, large and beautiful houses, without inhabitant. For ten acres of vineyard shall yield but one bath, and a homer of seed shall yield a mere ephah. Ah, you who rise early in the morning in pursuit of strong drink, who linger in the evening to be inflamed by wine, whose feasts consist of lyre and harp, tambourine and flute and wine, but who do not regard the deeds of the Lord, or see the work of his hands! People are bowed down, everyone is brought low, and the eyes of the haughty are humbled. But the Lord of hosts is exalted by justice, and the Holy God shows himself holy by righteousness. Then the lambs shall graze as in their pasture, fatlings and kids shall feed among the ruins. Ah, you who drag iniquity along with cords of falsehood, who drag sin along as with cart ropes, who say, "Let him make haste, let him speed his work that we may see it; let the plan of the Holy One of Israel hasten to fulfillment, that we may know it!" Ah, you who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter! Ah, you who are wise in your own eyes, and shrewd in your own sight! Ah, you who are heroes in drinking wine and valiant at mixing drink, who acquit the guilty for a bribe, and deprive the innocent of their rights!

Second Scripture Reading:**Matthew 7:1-5**

"Do not judge, so that you may not be judged. For with the judgment, you make you will be judged, and the measure you give will be the measure you get. Why do you see the speck in your neighbor's eye, but do not notice the log in your own eye? Or how can you say to your neighbor, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' while the log is in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your neighbor's eye.

When Giving Is All We Have*Alberto Rios*

We give because someone gave to us.

We give because nobody gave to us.

We give because giving has changed us.

We give because giving could have changed us.

We have been better for it,

We have been wounded by it—

Giving has many faces: It is loud and quiet,

Big, though small, diamond in wood-nails.

Its story is old, the plot worn and the pages too,

But we read this book, anyway, over and again:

Giving is, first and every time, hand to hand,

Mine to yours, yours to mine.

You gave me blue and I gave you yellow.

Together we are simple green. You gave me

What you did not have, and I gave you

What I had to give—together, we made

Something greater from the difference.