

October 17, 2021 – 21st Sunday after Pentecost

Your Worship Leader This Morning is Tim Homar

Prelude

Ringling of the Bell

Opening Hymn (Instrumental) - Our opening hymn was partially inspired by the reading from Hebrews. It opens with "My song is love unknown, my Savior's love to me, Love to the loveless shown, that they might lovely be." "My Song Is Love Unknown" is #222 in the New Century Hymnal.

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Liturgist: Let your minds ponder the manifold works of God. Let your spirits soar amid the wonders of creation.

Congregation: There is abundant life all around us. The earth is full of God's creatures.

Liturgist: Sun and rain proclaim God's infinite imagination. Moon and stars sing the glory of the Eternal One.

Congregation: it is God who shares with us wisdom and understanding. We depend on God for the gift of life.

Liturgist: We gather to worship and praise the God of all people. We come to learn from the God we only dimly perceive.

Congregation: We reach out for answers to our questions. We long to find meaning and purpose for our days.

Hymn (Instrumental) - NCH 218 - "Ah, Holy Jesus" is traditionally a Holy Week hymn. The fourth verse opens with "Therefore, kind Jesus, since I cannot pay you, I do adore you."

Confession of Sin

Reigning God, we confess that we, like the disciples James and John, seek places of honor, privilege, and reward. We succumb to the temptation to compare ourselves with others to our advantage. We want privilege without pain, greatness without the grind of hard work. We expect rewards for our efforts. We talk about serving you, but we do not want the rank of servant. We have lots of ideas about what you might do to intervene in the world and little commitment to what we might do in your name. Forgive us and help us, gracious God. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Gloria Patri (Instrumental)

Old Testament Lesson – Isaiah 53:4-12

Hymn of Praise (Recorded) – “Surely It Is God Who Saves Me” by David Ashley White, performed by the First UCC Choir

Children’s Sermon

Epistle Lesson – Hebrews 5:1-10

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Lord’s Prayer

Offering

Offertory - “God Calls You Good” is a contemporary hymn written by Paul M. Vasile. Its title speaks the truth this hymn shares.

Gospel Lesson – Mark 10:35-45

Sermon

Hymn (Instrumental) - NCH 616 - Both connected to Hebrews and the abolitionist movement of the 19th Century, “I Want to Be Ready” closes with “I want to be ready to walk in Jerusalem just like John!”

Benediction

Postlude