

September 26, 2021 – 18th Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude

Ring of the Bell

Opening Hymn (Instrumental) - NCH 21 - "God Reigns o'er All the Earth" - This hymn speaks of God's reign and love for all his people!

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Liturgist: Come one and all to meet God here. Let all who are suffering find hope in this place.

Congregation: We have come that God might raise us up. Our only hope is in the Maker of heaven and earth.

Liturgist: Come, all who are weary and oppressed. God offers relief and enlists our mutual helpfulness.

Congregation: God hears our prayers and answers us. God equips us to be helpful to one another.

Liturgist: Come together to sing songs of praise to God. Give thanks for God's wondrous deeds.

Congregation: God's glory abides in this place of worship. God's presence and help are real.

Hymn (Instrumental) - NCH 286 - James Manley wrote "Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness" in 1978. Later on, he added the fourth stanza where he says, "Our women see visions, our men clear their eyes, with bold new decisions your people arise."

Confession of Sin

All-powerful God, we confess our devious ways. Even when prayers for others are on our lips, we seek ways to secure our own advantages. We put our trust in things we can accumulate rather than aligning ourselves with your will and way. Our behavior creates enemies and multiplies divisions among your people. We confuse our preferences with your intentions. O God, we need healing. Help us! Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Gloria Patri (Instrumental)

Old Testament Lesson – Numbers 11: 4-6, 10-16, 24-29

(Liturgist)

Hymn of Praise (Recorded) "Songs of Praises" by Jean Sibelius, performed by the First UCC Choir

Children's Sermon

Epistle Lesson – James 5:13-20 (Liturgist)

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Lord's Prayer

Offering

Offertory - NCH 562 - This hymn opens with "Take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me." "Take My Gifts" comes to the New Century Hymnal from New Zealand.

Gospel Lesson – Mark 9:38-50 (Pastor)

Sermon

Closing Hymn (Instrumental) - NCH 609 - "Now Is the Time Approaching" speaks of the realm of God. It opens with "Now is the time approaching by prophets long foretold, the all shall dwell together, secure and manifold."

Benediction

Postlude