



PILGRIM

Congregational Church



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST



**Pilgrim Congregational Church,
United Church of Christ
Welcome Sunday — September 7, 2025**

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- † PRELUDE: Ich ruf' zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ
— JS Bach
- † GATHERING SONG: God Welcomes All
— John Bell
- † OPENING HYMN: Morning Has Broken
- † ANTHEM: For The Beauty Of The Earth
— John Rutter
- † OFFERTORY: Sing Out, Earth and Skies
— Mary Haugen
- † COMMUNION HYMN: Let Us Talents and
Tongues Employ*
- † CLOSING HYMN: Lord Make Me More
Holy*
- † POSTLUDE: A Trumpet Fancy — L. Nelson

*From The New Century Hymnal, Copyright 1995.
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Today's service will be recorded.

WORSHIP – SEPTEMBER 7, 2025 COMMUNION SUNDAY

PRELUDE

Ich ruf' zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ — JS Bach

WELCOME

Rev. Reebee Girash and Sarah Jane Fuller

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Stephanie Shore

ONE: The peace of Christ be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

ONE: Let us share the peace of Christ with one another.

*GATHERING SONG

God Welcomes All — John Bell

God welcomes all, Strangers and Friends

God's love is strong And it never ends!

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 146 (adapted)

Rev. Reebee Girash and Sarah Jane Fuller

ONE: Hallelujah!

ALL: Hallelujah!

ONE: Praise God! Praise God, O my soul!

LEFT: We will praise God as long as we live;

RIGHT: We will sing praises to our God all our whole life long.

LEFT: Happy are those whose help is in God

RIGHT: Who made heaven and earth,

LEFT: the sea, and all that is in them;

RIGHT: God, who keeps faith forever;

LEFT: who executes justice for the oppressed;

RIGHT: who gives food to the hungry.

LEFT: who sets the prisoners free;

ONE: Praise God who watches over the strangers; who upholds the orphan and the widow

MANY: God will reign forever. Praise God!

ALL: Hallelujah!

*OPENING HYMN

Morning Has Broken — Pilgrim Hymnal 38 (next pages)

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Stephanie Shore

God of the Garden, we celebrate all living things today: from forest to field, from sea to sky.

Help us to see your presence, not only in human history but also in the stories of our kin
throughout creation.

Teach us to hear the good news of your loving care ringing through creation.

In the name of Christ who fills heaven and Earth, we pray. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 15:1-10

Stephanie Shore

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. ²And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

³So he told them this parable: ⁴“Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? ⁵And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. ⁶And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.’ ⁷Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

⁸“Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’

¹⁰Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

Morning Has Broken

38

Eleanor Farjeon, 1881-

BUNESSAN 5.5.5.4.D.

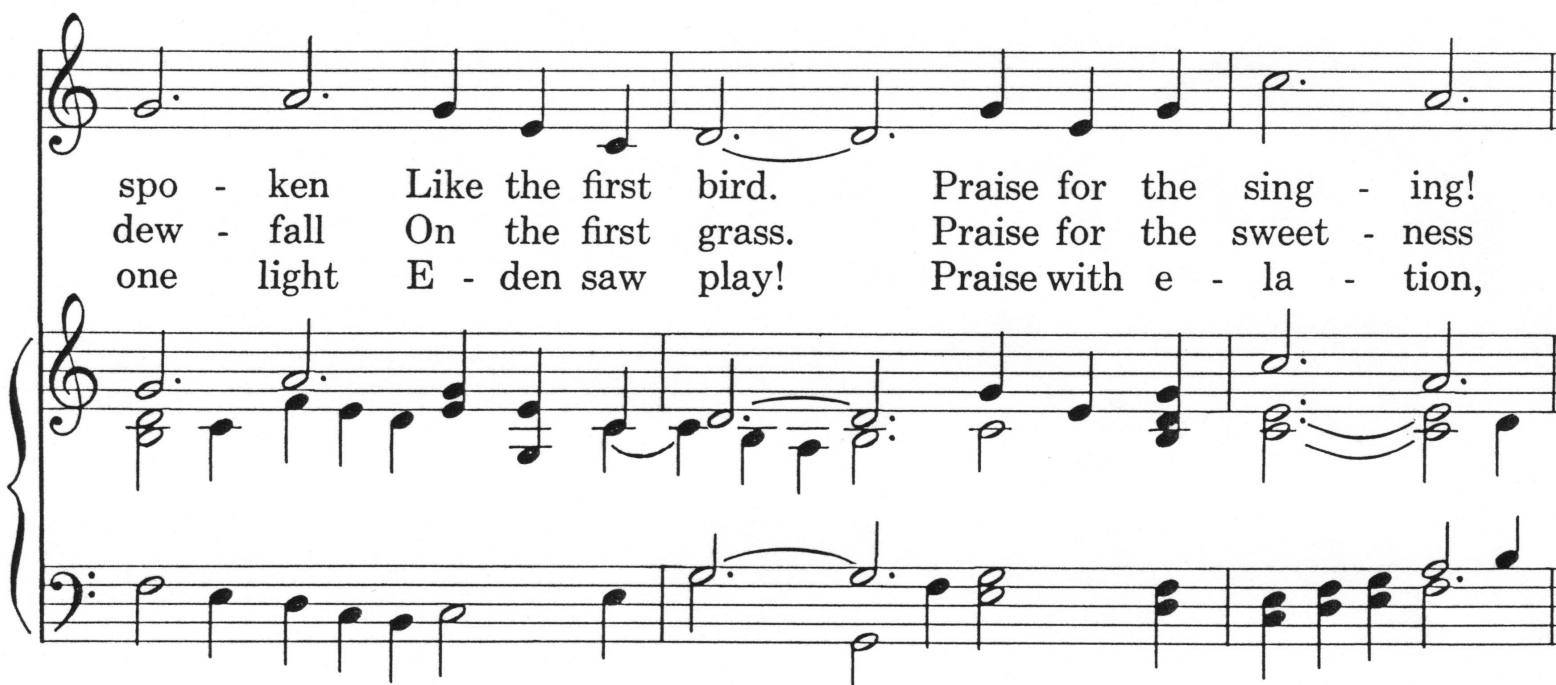
Gaelic Melody

Harm. by David Evans, 1874-1948

In unison



1 Morn-ing has bro - ken Like the first morn - ing, Black-bird has
2 Sweet the rain's new fall Sun - lit from heav - en, Like the first
3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing Born of the



spo - ken Like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing!
dew - fall On the first grass. Praise for the sweet - ness
one light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion,

Praise for the morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing Fresh from the Word!
 Of the wet gar - den, Sprung in com-plete - ness Where his feet pass.
 Praise ev - ery morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion Of the new day!

ONE: Here ends the reading. Hear what the Spirit of God is saying to the church.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

For The Beauty Of The Earth — John Rutter
 Pilgrim Choir

MEDITATION

Rev. Reebee Girash

INTERGENERATIONAL ACTIVITY

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Reebee Girash

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Reebee Girash

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Rev. Reebee Girash

OFFERTORY

Sing Out, Earth and Skies — Mary Haugen

*DOXOLOGY

Pilgrim Hymnal 515

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen

or

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below.

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Generous God, we offer these gifts in gratitude for all the blessings of our lives
and in support of the ministries of your church.**

May our gifts of time, talent and treasure bring blessings to those in need. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

*COMMUNION HYMN

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ — New Century Hymnal 347
(next pages)

*Our service of communion is open to all who wish to participate.
The sacrament is a gift from God, and all are welcome to receive it.*

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Loving God, Forgive us when we sin against our siblings,
against your creation, against you.
Grant us the grace and humility to change,
for the sake of building up your kin-dom of love and justice.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father (Creator), who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kin-dom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kin-dom,
and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

COMMUNION PRAYER

THE SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

COMMUNION MUSIC

UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**We thank you O God, for refreshing us at your holy table.
We thank you for this good earth and for our kin in this community
and around the world.
May we always be reminded to see the world through Christ's eyes,
and to work for a time when all may share together at Your table. Amen.**

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

Luke 10:1-9

Fred Kaan, 1975; alt.

C F G Dm G C G

1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em-ploy, reach-ing out with a shout of joy:
 2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at his ta - ble he set the tone,
 3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear-ing fruit in a world of doubt,

C F G Dm7 C G C

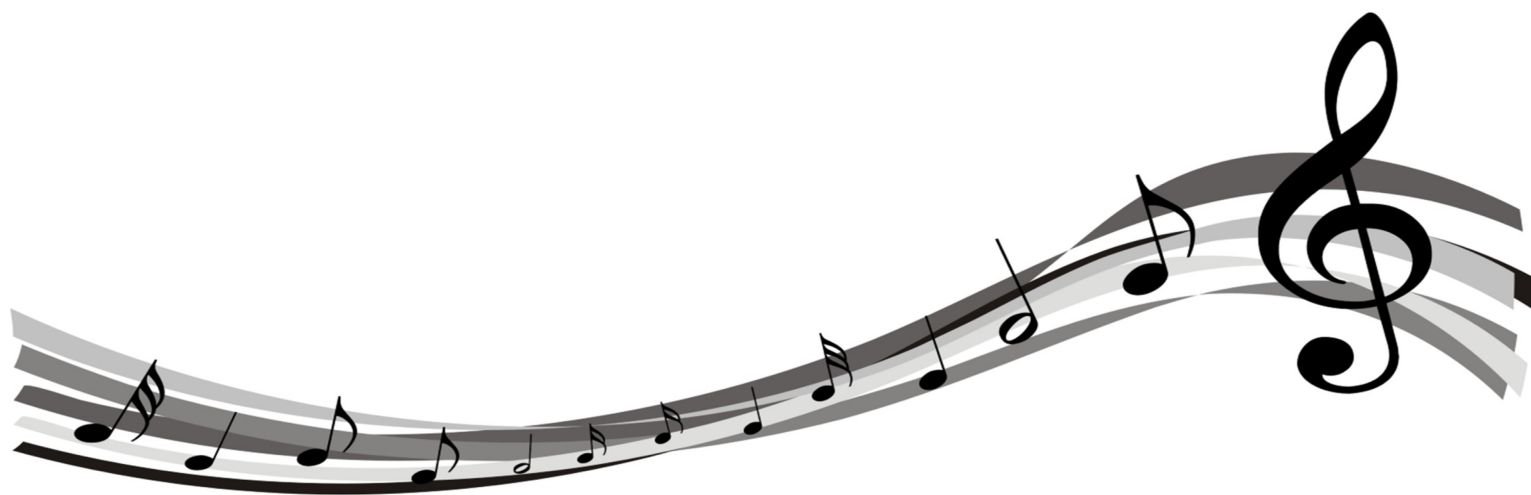
bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
 teach-ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex-press.
 gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im-man - u - el) ev - ery-where!


Refrain (first time p, second time f)

C C7 F Dm G C F C


Je-sus lives a-gain, earth can breathe a-gain, pass the Word a-round: loaves a-bound!

The musical score is written for voice and piano. The voice part is on a single treble clef staff, and the piano accompaniment is on two staves (treble and bass clefs). The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The refrain consists of two lines of music, each with a repeat sign at the beginning and end. The first line of music corresponds to the lyrics 'Je-sus lives a-gain, earth can breathe a-gain, pass the Word a-round: loaves a-bound!'. The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support with chords and moving lines in both hands.



African-American spiritual

1 Lord, make me more ho - ly. Lord, make me more ho - ly.



Lord, make me more ho - ly, un - til we meet a - gain.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly un - til we meet a - gain.

- 2 Lord, make me more faith-ful, . . . Faith-ful, . . . un-til we meet a-gain.
3 Lord, make me more hum-ble, . . . Hum-ble, . . . un-til we meet a-gain.
4 Lord, make me more righ-teous, . . . Righ-teous, . . . un-til we meet a-gain.

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Reebee Girash

ONE: Go now

Go and revel in God's world

Go and be creative

Go and work for justice

Go and love your neighbors

Go and walk with God.

ALL: Amen! Amen!

POSTLUDE

A Trumpet Fancy — L. Nelson

**Please be in a posture of praise.*

Please join us in Pilgrim Hall for a luncheon after the service.

SOURCE NOTES

The Benediction is from the Iona Abbey Worship Book.

Cover Image: Orthodox Christian icon titled "**Christ Enthroned in His Creation**" or often referred to as "**The Creation of the World**"

Please note: The video of this service is posted online.

If you prefer not to be filmed, please sit near the rear of the sanctuary.

Thank you to our greeter, Rich E, our Liturgist, Stephanie S., our Fellowship hosts, Rich E, Elizabeth C, Elena and Nick Z, and our Zoom hosts Acadia Z. and Mia M.

Save the Dates

September 7 Welcome Sunday! Intergenerational Worship at 10:30 AM
in the Sanctuary. Luncheon after worship - all welcome!

September 11 Men's Coffee Fall Start - 10:00 AM

September 14 Worship & Sunday School at 10:30 AM

September 16 Bible Study Fall Start - 10:30 AM

September 16 Church Council Meeting - 7:15 PM

September 21 Worship & Sunday School Service Project at 10:30 AM

Guest speaker from Lexington Creative Start

September 28 Worship & Children's Open House at 10:30 AM

October 4 Pumpkin Patch unloading! 9:00 AM

