



**Pilgrim Congregational Church**  
**United Church of Christ**  
**Special Music Sunday**  
**& Pride Sunday**  
**June 11, 2023**

**MUSIC IN TODAY'S SERVICE LICENSED  
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- ❖ PRELUDE: When In Our Music God is Glorified – Sue Mitchell-Wallace
- ❖ OPENING HYMN: Spirit of Love\*
- ❖ ANTHEM: God Loves a Picnic – Bryan Moyer Suderman
- ❖ RESPONSE HYMN: O For A World\*
- ❖ OFFERTORY: I See Your Heart – Richard Bruxvoort Colligan
- ❖ CLOSING HYMN: Take My Gifts\*
- ❖ SUNG BENEDICTION: A Gaelic Blessing by John Rutter

*\*From The New Century Hymnal, Copyright 1995.*

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***Today's service will be recorded.***



**PILGRIM**  
Congregational Church



**Welcome to Pilgrim Congregational Church,  
United Church of Christ  
A Welcoming, Open and Affirming Congregation**

**Statement of Welcome**

*We honor the Biblical call to love one another as God first loved us. We welcome into the full life and ministry of the church all people of any race, nationality, religious background, educational background, ethnicity, age, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, economic status, and physical, mental, and emotional abilities.*

**Mission Statement**

*A welcoming home to all  
spiritual seekers  
Making a difference in our world,  
By fusing our Christian faith with  
everyday life and Serving God by serving others.*

**Children at Pilgrim**

Children are an important part of our worshipping community. We try to make them feel at home!

All are welcome. Professional childcare for infants and toddlers is available in the nursery from 10:15 to the end of the service.

**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.

**Visual and Hearing Aids**

Hearing devices may be picked up from the table in the narthex.

**Large Print bulletins** and Sermons texts are available.

**Pilgrim Congregational Church, UCC**  
**Special Music Sunday & Pride Sunday | June 11, 2023**

PRELUDE                      When In Our Music God is Glorified – Sue Mitchell-Wallace

GREETING

Rev. Reebee Girash

ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Reebee Girash and Sarah Jane Fuller

# PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: Peace be with you.

**ALL:** And also with you.

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

\*OPENING HYMN Spirit of Love—Black Hymnal 58  
(next page)

## OPENING LITANY FOR OPEN AND AFFIRMING SUNDAY

## The Flames of Love by Kimi Floyd Reisch, 2021

## Spirit of Love

Shirley Erena Murray, 1992

1 Spir - it of love, you move with - in cre - a - tion,  
 2 Though we have frayed the fab - ric of your mak - ing,  
 3 Great loom of God, where his - to - ry is wo - ven,

draw - ing the threads to col - or and de - sign:  
 tear - ing a - way from all that you in - tend,  
 you are the frame that holds us to the truth,

Life in - to life, you knit our true sal - va - tion,  
 Yet, to be whole, hu - man - i - ty is ach - ing—  
 Christ is the theme, the pat - tern you have giv - en—

come, work with us, and weave us in - to one.  
 come, work with us, and weave us in - to one.  
 come, work with us, and weave us in - to one.

Originally titled "Weaver Spirit," this text was written for the World Council of Churches Assembly at Canberra. It addressed one of the themes of that meeting—"Come, Holy Spirit, Reconcile Your People."

Tune: PERFECT LOVE 11.10.11.10.  
 Joseph Barnby, 1889

1 Spirit of love, you move within creation,  
 drawing the threads to color and design:  
 Life into life, you knit our true salvation,  
 come, work with us, and weave us into one.

2 Though we have frayed the fabric of your  
 making, tearing away from all that you intend,  
 Yet, to be whole, humanity is aching,  
 come, work with us, and weave us into one.

3 Great loom of God, where history is woven,  
 you are the frame that holds us to the truth,  
 Christ is the theme, the pattern you have  
 given,  
 come, work with us, and weave us into one.

## A MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES FOR PRIDE SUNDAY

A reading of the book: *Everything Possible* by Fred Small and Alison Brown

ANTHEM

Jazz Alleluia – by Craig Curry

## SCRIPTURE READING

Daniel 3:16-28

<sup>16</sup>Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego answered the king, ‘O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to present a defense to you in this matter. <sup>17</sup>If our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the furnace of blazing fire and out of your hand, O king, let him deliver us. <sup>18</sup>But if not, be it known to you, O king, that we will not serve your gods and we will not worship the golden statue that you have set up.’

<sup>19</sup>Then Nebuchadnezzar was so filled with rage against Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego that his face was distorted. He ordered the furnace to be heated up seven times more than was customary, <sup>20</sup>and ordered some of the strongest guards in his army to bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego and to throw them into the furnace of blazing fire. <sup>21</sup>So the men were bound, still wearing their tunics, their trousers, their hats, and their other garments, and they were thrown into the furnace of blazing fire. <sup>22</sup>Because the king’s command was urgent and the furnace was so overheated, the raging flames killed the men who lifted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. <sup>23</sup>But the three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, fell down, bound, into the furnace of blazing fire.

<sup>24</sup>Then King Nebuchadnezzar was astonished and rose up quickly. He said to his counselors, 'Was it not three men that we threw bound into the fire?' They answered the king, 'True, O king.' <sup>25</sup>He replied, 'But I see four men unbound, walking in the middle of the fire, and they are not hurt; and the fourth has the appearance of a god.'

<sup>26</sup>Nebuchadnezzar then approached the door of the furnace of blazing fire and said, 'Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, servants of the Most High God, come out! Come here!' So Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego came out from the fire. <sup>27</sup>And the satraps, the prefects, the governors, and the king's counselors gathered together and saw that the fire had not had any power over the bodies of those men; the hair of their heads was not singed, their tunics were not harmed, and not even the smell of fire came from them.

<sup>28</sup>Nebuchadnezzar said, 'Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who has sent his angel and delivered his servants who trusted in him. They disobeyed the king's command and yielded up their bodies rather than serve and worship any god except their own God.'

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

HOMILY

Rev. Reebee Girash



# O for a World

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Miriam Therese Winter, 1987

Acts 4:32–35; 1 Cor. 1:26–31; 1 Pet. 3:8–12



1 O for a world where ev - ery-one re - spects each oth - er's ways,  
 2 O for a world where goods are shared and mis - er - y re - lieved,  
 3 We wel-come one world fam - i - ly and strug - gle with each choice  
 4 The poor are rich, the weak are strong, the fool - ish ones are wise.  
 5 O for a world pre - par - ing for God's glo - rious reign of peace,

Where love is lived and all is done with jus - tice and with praise.  
 Where truth is spo - ken, chil-dren spared, e - qual - i - ty a - chieved.  
 That o - pens us to u - ni - ty and gives our vi - sion voice.  
 Tell all who mourn: out - casts be - long, who per - ish - es will rise.  
 Where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.

1 O for a world where everyone respects each other's ways,  
Where love is lived and all is done with justice and with praise.

2 O for a world where goods are shared and misery relieved,  
Where truth is spoken, children are spared, equality achieved.

3 We welcome one world family and struggle with each choice  
That opens us to unity and gives our vision voice.

4 The poor are rich, the weak are strong, the foolish ones are wise.  
Tell all who mourn: outcasts belong, who perishes will rise.

5 O for a world preparing for God's glorious reign of peace,  
Where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Rev. Reebee Girash

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Reebee Girash



## LORDS PRAYER

**Our Father (Creator), who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom 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 kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

## INVITATION TO OFFERING

Rev. Reebee Girash

## OFFERTORY

I See Your Heart — Richard Bruxvoort Colligan

## \*DOXOLOGY

Red 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

Rev. Reebee Girash

**All good gifts around us come from you, O God. You have given us life, and new life in Christ. As you have given us gifts, so we offer our gifts that we may be gifts to one another, even as Jesus so taught and lived. Amen.**

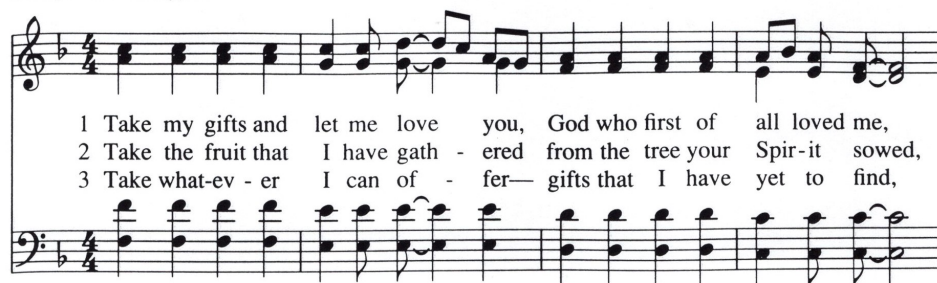
# \*CLOSING HYMN

## Take My Gifts — Black Hymnal 562 (next page)

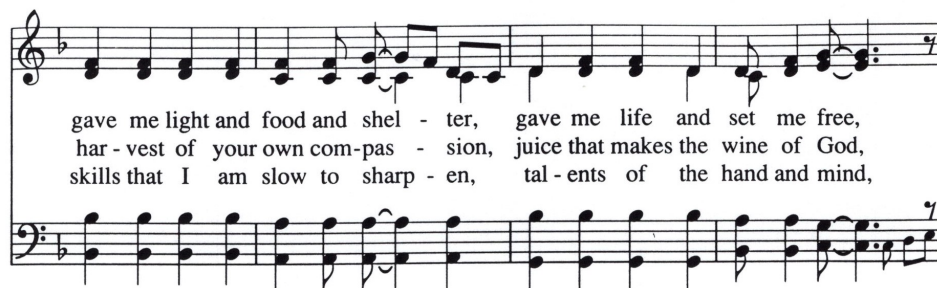
### Take My Gifts

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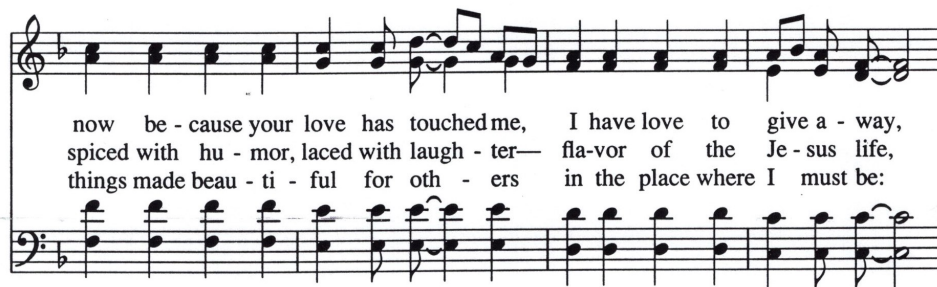
*Shirley Erena Murray, 1991*



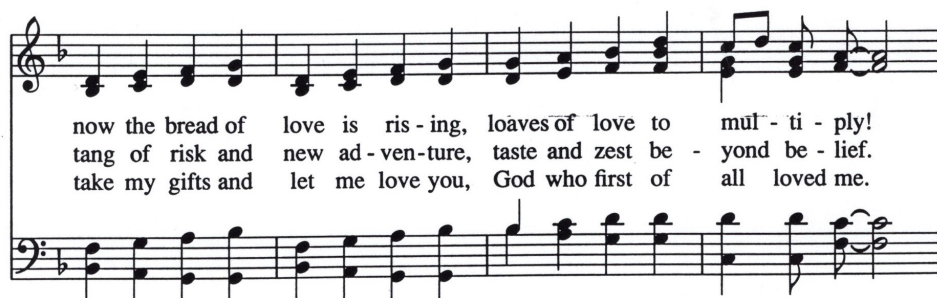
1 Take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me,  
2 Take the fruit that I have gath - ered from the tree your Spir - it sowed,  
3 Take what-ev - er I can of - fer— gifts that I have yet to find,



gave me light and food and shel - ter, gave me life and set me free,  
har - vest of your own com-pas - sion, juice that makes the wine of God,  
skills that I am slow to sharp - en, tal - ents of the hand and mind,



now be - cause your love has touched me, I have love to give a - way,  
spiced with hu - mor, laced with laugh - ter— fla - vor of the Je - sus life,  
things made beau - ti - ful for oth - ers in the place where I must be:



now the bread of love is ris - ing, loaves of love to mul - ti - ply!  
tang of risk and new ad - ven - ture, taste and zest be - yond be - lief.  
take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me.

1 Take my gifts and let me love You,  
God who first of all loved me,  
gave me light and food and shelter,  
gave me life and set me free.  
Now because Your love has touched me,  
I have love to give away,  
now the bread of love is rising,  
loaves of love to multiply.

2 Take the fruit that I have gathered  
from the tree Your Spirit sowed,  
harvest of Your own compassion,  
juice that makes the wine of God,  
spiced with humor, laced with laughter--  
flavor of the Jesus life,  
tang of risk and new adventure,  
taste and zest beyond belief.

3 Take whatever I can offer--  
gifts that I have yet to find,  
skills that I am slow to sharpen,  
talents of the hand and mind,  
things made beautiful for others  
in the place where I must be:  
take my gifts and let me love You,  
God who first of all loved me.

# SUNG BENEDICTION

A Gaelic Blessing by John Rutter

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*\*Please be in a posture of praise*

A special Thank You to our Zoom hosts, Duncan Todd and Zac Girash.

## SOURCE NOTES

The Open and Affirming Litany is from the UCC's Open and Affirming Coalition liturgy for ONA Sunday 2021 - <https://openandaffirming.org/worship/open-and-affirming-sunday-2021/>. The Prayer of Dedication is from the New Century Hymnal. The Message for All Ages includes portions of Rev. Fred Small's book, *Everything Possible*.

