



Pilgrim Congregational Church,
United Church of Christ
Pride Sunday — June 2, 2024

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- ❖ **PRELUDE:** Tis so sweet to trust in
Jesus — David Anderson
- ❖ **OPENING HYMN:** Spirit of Love*
- ❖ **ANTHEM:** We Are a Rainbow by
David Kai
- ❖ **RESPONSE HYMN:** O For A World*
- ❖ **OFFERTORY:** I See Your Heart —
Richard Bruxvoort Colligan
- ❖ **CLOSING HYMN:** God, We Thank
You for Our People*
- ❖ **POSTLUDE:**

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Today's service will be recorded.

Worship Sunday, June 2, 2024

PRELUDE

Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus – David Anderson

GREETINGS & 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

OPENING LITANY FOR OPEN AND AFFIRMING SUNDAY

The Flames of Love by Kimi Floyd Reisch, 2021

❖ANTHEM

We Are a Rainbow by David Kai

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.

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.

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

Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

139:1 O LORD, you have searched me and known me.

139:2 You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.

139:3 You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways.

139:4 Even before a word is on my tongue, O LORD, you know it completely.

139:5 You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

139:6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it.

139:13 For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

139:14 I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.

139:15 My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth.

139:16 Your eyes beheld my unformed substance. In your book were written all the days that were formed for me, when none of them as yet existed.

139:17 How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!

139:18 I try to count them -- they are more than the sand; I come to the end -- I am still with you.

ONE: Here end the readings. Hear what the Spirit of God is saying to the church.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

SERMON



O for a World

575

Miriam Therese Winter, 1987

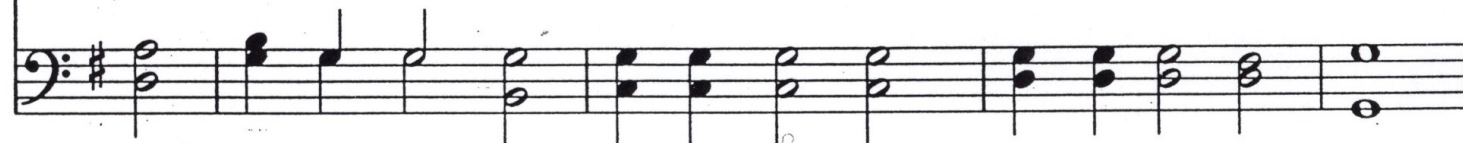
Acts 4:32-35; 1 Cor. 1:26-31; 1 Pet. 3:8-12



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

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Rev. Reebee Girash

OFFERTORY

I See Your Heart — Richard Bruxvoort Colligan

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

We offer our gifts to the God of all. We joyfully give our treasure to bring hope, justice, love and healing to those who are hurting. May these gifts be blessed and multiplied and used to provide ministry for those who are too often pushed to the margins in society. Let the generosity represented here be magnified and amplified to stretch beyond our human thought and imagination. Amen

THE SERVICE OF COMMUNION

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.

***COMMUNION HYMN**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

COMMUNION PRAYER

THE LORD'S 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.

THE SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

COMMUNION MUSIC

UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**O Christ, we thank you for this feast of life.
Fed by your love, and strengthened by your life;
we humbly accept your call to go
into this world to live with hope,
and to share your joy.
You commission us to
feed as we have been fed,
forgive as we have been forgiven,
and love as we have been loved.
Thanks be to God. Amen.**

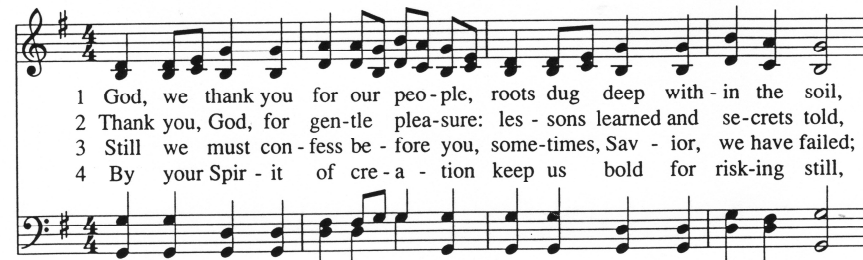
*CLOSING HYMN

God, We Thank You for Our People – Black Hymnal 376

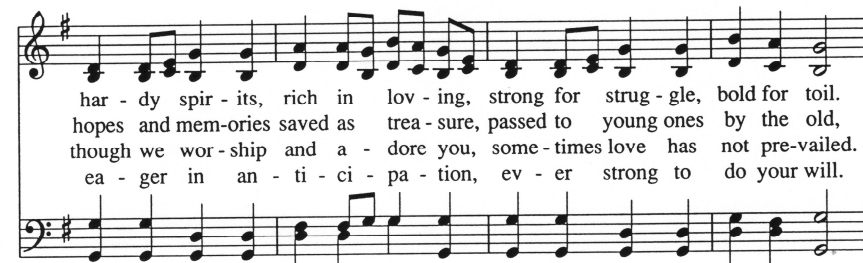
God, We Thank You for Our People

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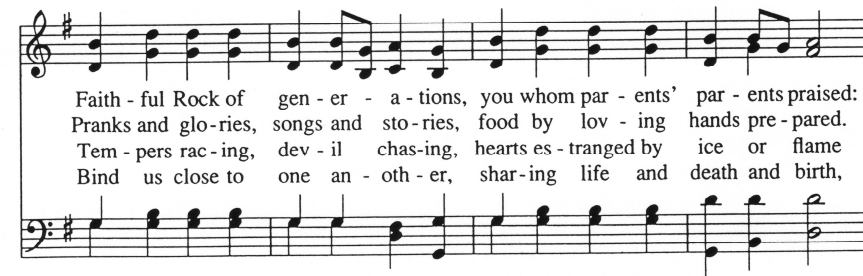
Ruth Duck, 1986



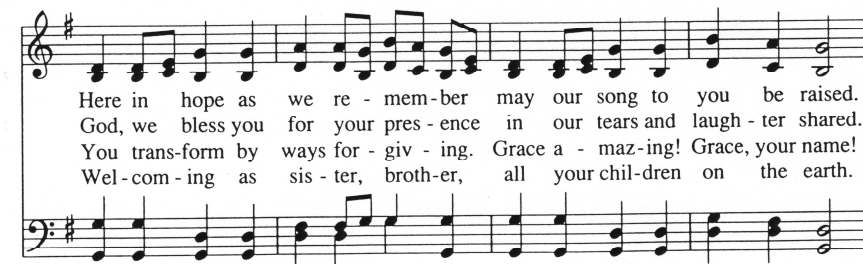
1 God, we thank you for our peo-ple, roots dug deep with - in the soil,
2 Thank you, God, for gen-tle plea-sure: les - sons learned and se-crets told,
3 Still we must con - fess be - fore you, some-times, Sav - ior, we have failed;
4 By your Spir - it of cre - a - tion keep us bold for risk-ing still,



har - dy spir - its, rich in lov - ing, strong for strug - gle, bold for toil.
hopes and mem-ories saved as trea - sure, passed to young ones by the old,
though we wor - ship and a - dore you, some-times love has not pre-vailed.
ea - ger in an - ti - ci - pa - tion, ev - er strong to do your will.



Faith - ful Rock of gen - er - a - tions, you whom par - ents' par - ents praised:
Pranks and glo-ries, songs and sto-ries, food by lov - ing hands pre - pared.
Tem - pers rac - ing, dev - il chas - ing, hearts es - tranged by ice or flame
Bind us close to one an - oth - er, shar - ing life and death and birth,



Here in hope as we re - mem - ber may our song to you be raised.
God, we bless you for your pres - ence in our tears and laugh - ter shared.
You trans - form by ways for - giv - ing. Grace a - maz - ing! Grace, your name!
Wel - com - ing as sis - ter, broth - er, all your chil - dren on the earth.

Ruth Duck created this text at the request of Harold (Hal) McSwain, Jr., for a family reunion. She found her inspiration in the stories of Harold, Sr., and in her own family heritage. The hymn speaks to any community that has shared life together for a long time.

Tune: HOLY MANNA 8.7.8.7.D.
William Moore, 1825

1 God, we thank you for our people, roots dug deep within the soil,
hardy spirits, rich in loving, strong for struggle, bold for toil.

Faithful Rock of generations, you whom parents; parents praised:
Here in hope as we remember may our song to you be raised.

2 Thank you, God, for gentle pleasure: lessons learned and secrets told,
hopes and memories saved as treasure, passed to young ones by the old,
Pranks and glories, songs and stories, food by loving hands prepared.
God, we bless you for your presence in our tears and laughter shared.

3 Still we must confess before you, sometimes, Savior, we have failed;
though we worship and adore you, sometimes love has not prevailed.
Tempers racing, devil chasing, hearts estranged by ice or flame
You transform by ways forgiving. Grace amazing! Grace, your name!

4 By your Spirit of creation keep us bold for risking still,
eager in anticipation, ever strong to do your will.

Bind us close to one another, sharing life and death and birth,
Welcoming as sister, brother, all your children on the earth.

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Reebee Girash

POSTLUDE

When in Our Music God is Glorified
Sue Mitchell-Wallace

**Please be in a posture of praise.*

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 Zoom hosts,
Isabella and Sydney Stevens.

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 ONA Coalition.

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.*

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.*

