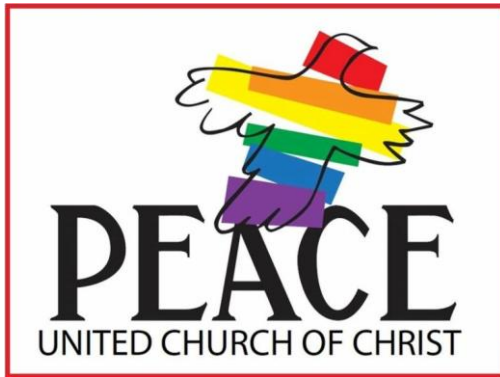




*An Open & Affirming, Creation Justice
Congregation of the United Church of Christ*

11 October 2026 – 10:30 AM
TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Accessibility Sunday

***indicates the congregation is invited to stand.
Please feel free to remain seated if you prefer.**

PRELUDE *Fantasy on the Golden Sequence* John Karl Hirten
Vlada Volkova-Moran, organist

WELCOME The Rev. David Pattee, pastor

*GATHERING GATHER US IN

**Here in this place new light is streaming, now is the darkness vanished away,
See in this space our fears and our dreamings, brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in – the lost and forsaken, gather us in – the blind and the lame;
Call to us now and we shall awaken, we shall arise at the sound of our name.**

*CALL in dialogue with *Psalms 23*

One: God is our Shepherd. We want not. Nothing forgotten, or left out.

All: Created in love, we are one!

One: The world would name us by what it believes we lack. God always calls us whole.
Our bodies, our minds, our spirits, created without hesitation, held without condition,
beloved without exception.

All: Created differently, we are one!

One: One Band. One Body. Many members. One truth. One Spirit.
No life stands alone. No gift exists apart from another.

All: Created creatively, we are one!

One: We are healed through our connection in courage and compassion.

**All: It binds us together, and becomes the very place where grace is made known.
Created in love, we are one!**

*HYMN 177 *God of Change and Glory* KATHERINE

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS

*GREETING OF PEACE

RESPONSIVE PSALM from *Psalms 118:14-24*

One: The LORD is my strength and my might, and has become my salvation.

All: There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous:

“The hand of the LORD does valiantly; the hand of the LORD is exalted!”

One: Open to me the gates of righteousness that I may enter and give thanks.

All: This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it.

One: I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

**All: The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.
This is the LORD’s doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.
This is the day that the LORD has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

ANTHEM

Cornerstone
CHANCEL CHOIR • Cheryl Anderson, director

Shawn Kirchner

WITNESS

Foster Anderson

HYMN 388 (seated)

Help Us Accept Each Other

AURELIA

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Lisa Hoelsing

One: We are not perfect but, by God's grace, we are forgiven and empowered. We are called to love our neighbor and to recognize where we have opportunity to love more fully, for the increase of justice and the reign of peace.

All: God, draw us closer to Access and Love.

One: Let us rejoice in the continued work of access, celebrating the gifts and abilities of our neighbors, especially those with disabilities. Let us be bold, creative, thoughtful, empathetic, and faithful, rejoicing in the journey of access for all.

All: God, draw us closer to Access and Love.

One: In this quiet moment, O God, we pray that you will hear us in our joys and concerns, petitions and thanksgivings for ourselves, our families and communities, and this world, asking that you would guide us in witness and service.

--- silent prayer ---

One: We offer our prayers in trust of your gift to us in Jesus Christ, pioneer and perfecter of our faith, in whose spirit we pray together...

All: Earth-Maker, Life-Giver, Pain-Bearer, Source of all that is and all that shall be, Father and Mother of us all, Loving God in whom is Heaven:

May the hallowing of your name echo through the universe.

May your Heavenly will be done by all creatures great and small.

And may your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need this day, feed us. For the hurt we inflict on one another, forgive us.

Through times of temptation, strengthen us.

From trials too great to endure, spare us.

From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is Love.

OFFERTORY

All Shall Be Well



Mark Burrows

*COVENANT

We covenant with God and with each other:

to walk together in all God's ways as the Holy is revealed to us;

to give ourselves freely and without reserve to Jesus' ministry in this church;

to celebrate through worship God's amazing gifts of unity and diversity;

to take up Christ's mission around the world, striving for justice and peace;

to care for the earth and all her creatures, reconciling ourselves to them in love;

for God gives immeasurable grace into all life and every life.

*HYMN 495 [hymn sheet]

Called as Partners in Christ's Service

BEECHER

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Toccata

David H. Hegarty

God of Change and Glory

1 Cor. 12:4-27

Al Carmines, 1973

C G C F G C

1 God of change and glo - ry, God of time and space,
2 God of man - y col - ors, God of man - y signs,
3 Fresh-ness of the morn - ing, new - ness of each night,

E Am D7 G

when we fear the fu - ture, give to us your grace.
you have made us dif - ferent, bless - ing man - y kinds.
you are still cre - at - ing end - less love and light.

G7 C F C G7 C G C

In the midst of chang-ing ways give us still the grace to praise.
As the old ways dis - ap - pear, let your love cast out our fear.
This we see, as shad - ows part, man - y gifts from one great heart.

Refrain
C F G C F C

Man - y gifts, one Spir - it, one love known in man - y ways.

C F C F G

In our dif - fer - ence is bless-ing, from di - ver - si - ty we praise

C F G

one Giv-er, one Word, one Spir-it, one God known in man-y ways,

F C G7 C

hal-low-ing our days. For the Giv-er, for the gifts, praise, praise, praise!

Help Us Accept Each Other

388

Fred Kaan, 1974; alt.

John 15:12; 17:20-23; Eph. 4:1-6, 11-16

- 1 Help us ac-cept each oth-er
as Christ ac-cept-ed us;
teach us as sis-ter, broth-er,
each per-son to em-brace.
Be pres-ent, God, a-mong us,
and bring us to be-lieve
we are our-selves ac-cept-ed
and meant to love and live.
- 2 Teach us, O God, your les-sons,
as in our dai-ly life
we strug-gle to be hu-man
and search for hope and faith.
Teach us to care for peo-ple,
for all, not just for some,
to love them as we find them,
or as they may be-come.
- 3 Let your ac-cep-tance change us,
so that we may be moved
in liv-ing sit-u-a-tions
to do the truth in love;
To prac-tice your ac-cep-tance,
un-til we know by heart
the ta-ble of for-give-ness
and laugh-ter's heal-ing art.
- 4 God, for to-day's en-coun-ters
with all who are in need,
who hun-ger for ac-cep-tance,
for righ-teous-ness and bread,
Bring us new eyes for see-ing,
new hands for hold-ing on;
re-new us with your Spir-it;
God! Free us, make us one!

Dutch theologian Fred Kaan was ordained in the United Reformed Church in England and Wales and has served as an international church administrator. Author of more than 200 hymns, Kaan frequently has addressed contemporary issues in his texts.

Tune: AURELIA 7.6.7.6.D.
Samuel S. Wesley, 1864

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DISCIPLESHIP

Called as Partners in Christ's Service

495

Jane Parker Huber, 1981

John 15:12-17; Gal. 6:2; Eph. 2:14-22

1 Called as part-ners in Christ's ser-vice, called to min-is-tries of grace,
2 Christ's ex-am-ple, Christ's in-spir-ing, Christ's clear call to work and worth,
3 Thus new pat-terns for Christ's mis-sion, in a small or glob-al sense,
4 So God grant us for to-mor-row ways to or-der hu-man life

We re-pond with deep com-mit-ment fresh new lines of faith to trace.
Let us fol-low, nev-er fal-tering, rec-on-cil-ing folk on earth.
Help us bear each oth-er's bur-dens, break-ing down each wall or fence.
That sur-round each per-son's sor-row with a calm that con-quers strife.

May we learn the art of shar-ing, side by side and friend with friend,
Men and wom-en, rich-er, poor-er, all God's peo-ple, young and old,
Words of com-fort, words of vi-sion, words of chal-lenge, said with care,
Make us part-ners in our liv-ing, our com-pas-sion to in-crease,

E-equal part-ners in our car-ing to ful-fill God's cho-sen end.
Blend-ing hu-man skills to-geth-er gra-cious gifts from God un-fold.
Bring new power and strength for ac-tion, make us col-leagues, free and fair.
Mes-sen-gers of faith, thus giv-ing hope and con-fi-dence and peace.