



**MAPLE STREET CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC**  
**SEPTEMBER 12, 2021 • TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

*We share God's love, hope, and healing and serve our neighbors.  
No matter who you are or where you are on your faith journey,  
you are welcome here!*

## PRELUDE

Ji Hye Jung

## WELCOME

Rev. Pam Cochrane

## CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 19)

One: The heavens keep telling the wonders of God. The skies declare what God has done.

**All: Let us sing praises to God our creator.**

One: God's law is good. It gives us new strength. Happy are those who follow God's commands.

**All: Let us sing praises to God our creator.**

One: The worship of God is good. It will continue forever.

**All: Let us sing praises to God our creator.**

## HYMN

*God Reigns O'er All the Earth*

Tune: TERRA BEATA  
Words: Jane Parker Huber

1. God reigns o'er all the earth! Green hills and valleys low,  
The farms and towns in golds and browns God's grace and beauty show.  
God reigns o'er all the earth! Stone banks and spreading plains,  
In rainbow hues – reds, yellows, blues – of streams and country lanes.
2. God reigns o'er human life! Through youth and aging years,  
In death, in birth, in grief, in mirth, in all our hopes and fears.  
God reigns o'er human life! Our inspiration still.  
Through all our schemes, in all our dreams, we see God's reigning will.
3. God reigns o'er time and space! In history's bygone days,  
Christ's faithful folk in reverence spoke to bring God earnest praise.  
God reigns o'er time and space! O'er galaxy and sun,  
Through timeless years the cosmos hears the heavenly music run.
4. God reigns, Emmanuel! God with us every day,  
In all our past and to the last, our comfort and our stay.  
God reigns, Emmanuel! Let praise to God be sung!  
God's presence here makes all things dear. Let joyful bells be rung!

## PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Holy Wisdom of God  
You call to us from the depths of our hearts,  
where we long for connection with you and with one another.  
You call to us from busy streets and neighborhoods,  
Where human pain and possibility are most urgent.  
You call to us from our sacred stories,  
where God, Christ, Spirit create, challenge, comfort.  
Guide us, we pray, on an adventure of hope, and  
help us see with your eyes the ways which lead to beloved community  
where Christ Jesus is at the center.

## **SUNG RESPONSE**

**Spirit divine, attend our prayers and make this world thy home;  
Descend with all thy gracious powers, O come, great Spirit, come!**

## **PRAYER OF APPROACH & BLESSING OF ASSURANCE**

One: God is always more ready to forgive than we are to ask. Like a loving parent, God is there to comfort and help us make new beginnings. Lift up your hearts and rejoice. We are a forgiven people.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

"Draw the Circle Wide"

Rev. Pam Cochrane

## **OFFERING**

## **SPECIAL MUSIC**

*Czardas*  
Faith Bertrand, accordion

Vittorio Monte, arr. Galla-Rini

## **SCRIPTURE** — Mark 8:27–38

## **MESSAGE**

"God is With Us"

Rev. Pam Cochrane

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Rev. Douglas Vooyoys

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, 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 trespasses as we forgive  
those who trespass against us. And, lead us not into temptation, but deliver us  
from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

## **HYMN OF RESPONSE**

*Bring Many Names*

Tune: WESTCHASE, Words: Brian Wren

1. Bring many names, beautiful and good,  
Celebrate in parable and story,  
Holiness in glory, living, loving God,  
Hail and Hosanna! Bring many names!
2. Strong mother God, working night and day,  
Planning all the wonders of creation,  
Setting each equation, genius at play;  
Hail and Hosanna, strong mother God!
3. Warm father God, hugging every child,  
Feeling all the strains of human living,  
Caring and forgiving till we're reconciled:  
Hail and Hosanna, warm father God!
4. Old, aching God, grey with endless care,  
Calmly piercing evil's new disguises,  
Glad of good surprises, wiser than despair;  
Hail and Hosanna, old aching God!
5. Young, growing God, eager, on the move,  
Saying no to falsehood and unkindness,  
Crying out for justice, giving all you have:  
Hail and Hosanna, young, growing God!
6. Great living God, never fully known.  
Joyful darkness far beyond our seeing,  
Closer yet than breathing, everlasting home:  
Hail and Hosanna, great living God!

## **BENEDICTION**

### **BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

*Shalom to You Now*

Traditional Spanish Melody  
words by Elise Eslinger

Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends.  
May God's full mercies bless you, my friends.  
In all your living and through your loving,  
Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.

## **POSTLUDE**

Ji Hye Jung

*Our Worship together concludes with the Benediction Response.  
The Postlude is transitional music which inspires us as we go forth as disciples  
to serve God and one another. Worship has ended. Our service begins . . . .*

*We extend special thanks to Faith Bertrand  
for sharing her gifts for music for this morning's worship.*

*The flowers this Sunday are given in loving memory of  
Blenda & Eugene Acheson  
Given by Karen Kane*

*The steeple is lit this week in loving memory of  
Bill Hayward  
Given by Beverly Hayward*

*And in loving memory of  
Janelle Tobin  
Given by the Lavender & Tobin family*

## **Maple Street Congregational Church, UCC**

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**Morning Worship Service — Sundays at 10am**

**Zoom Prayer & Table Worship — Tuesdays at 6pm**

**Zoom Bible Study — Thursdays at 12noon**

**Church Office Hours: Monday - Friday: 10 am – 1 pm**

Learn more about programs & events, visit our website: [www.maplestreetchurch.org](http://www.maplestreetchurch.org)

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