



**MAPLE STREET CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC**

**NOVEMBER 14, 2021 • THIRTY-THIRD 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!*

**WELCOME**

Rev. Douglas Vooy

**PRELUDE**

*You Are My King*  
Judy Bonnell, piano

Billy James Foote,  
arr. Victor Labenske

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: God is calling us today to be instruments of kindness

People: Help us to hear God's call in our lives

Leader: God needs your kindness and graces to support others

People: May we use the blessings which God has given us to benefit others

Leader: Come, let us worship and celebrate God's love for us all

People: Let us show our faithfulness in our words and actions.

All: Praise be to God who continually blesses our lives and calls on each of us to be  
a blessing to others

**\*HYMN**

*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You*

Tune: HYMN TO JOY  
Words: Henry van Dyke

1. Joyful, joyful, we adore you, God of glory, God of love;  
Hearts unfold like flowers before you, opening to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the storms of doubt away;  
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.
2. All your works with joy surround you, earth and heaven reflect your rays,  
Stars and angels sing around you, center of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,  
Chanting bird and flowing fountain, teach us what our praise should be.
3. You are giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blessed,  
Well-spring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!  
Loving Spirit, Father, Mother, all who love belong to you;  
Teach us how to love each other, by that love our joy renew.
4. Mortals, join the mighty chorus which the morning stars began;  
Boundless love is reigning o'er us, reconciling race and clan.  
Ever singing, move we forward, faithful in the midst of strife,  
Joyful music leads us onward in the triumph song of life.

**\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION (UNISON)**

Lord, we gather here this day in praise and thanksgiving for all the wonderful things you have done for us. Grant us the strength and wisdom to be kind and present to others as you are to us. Aid us to be faithful disciples of your Word in all that we think, do, and say, so that your great love may be revealed and offered as healing to all people. AMEN.

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Loving God, how often have we believed that the greatest commandment is our love for ourselves solely. We have not heard the cries of those in need; we have turned our backs on opportunities to serve you by serving others. Many times, we have thought only of our own wants and desires and ignored the needs of others. Help us to truly understand the commandments to love you with all our heart, soul, strength, and mind. Let us care for our neighbors both far and near. Bring us back to your loving light. For we ask these things in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

## **WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Friends, hear this Good News: the love of God is beyond measure, and we are all included in that love. Know that you are forgiven and thus freed to love and serve others. Amen.

## **\*SUNG RESPONSE**

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

## **SPECIAL MUSIC**

*Rooted and Grounded in Love*  
Chancel Choir

Amanda Udis-Kessler

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Rev. Douglas Vooyo

## **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.**

## **OFFERING**

## **PRAYER OF DEDICATION (UNISON)**

### **\*DOXOLOGY**

Lyrics: Thomas Ken, Tune: Red No. 64

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise God the source of all our gifts!  
Praise Jesus Christ whose pow'r uplifts!  
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## **SCRIPTURE READING — Ruth 1:1-18**

Donna Mandriota

## **SERMON**

Ruth = Kindness

Rev. Nancy Haynes

**\*HYMN OF RESPONSE**      *Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant?*      Tune: SERVANT SONG  
WORDS: Richard Gillard

1. Won't you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?  
Pray that I may have the grace to let me be your servant, too.
2. We are pilgrims on a journey, we are travelers on the road;  
We are here to help each other go the mile and bear the road.
3. I will hold the Christ-light for you in the shadow of your fear;  
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.
4. I will weep when you are weeping; when you laugh I'll laugh with you.  
I will share your joy and sorrow till we've seen this journey through.
5. When we sing to God in heaven we shall find such harmony,  
Born of all we've known together of Christ's love and agony.

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

*This Little Light of Mine*  
Judy Bonnell, piano

Harry Dixon Loes,  
arr. Mark Hayes

*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 our special thanks to Judy Bonnell, our pianist,  
and to Ed Rozmiarek, who is our song-leader for worship today.*

*The flowers this Sunday are in loving memory of  
Calvin R. and Jane P. Potter  
and their daughter Elisabeth C. Potter  
Given by the Potter Family*

*The steeple is lit this week in loving memory of  
Richard Langley  
Given by Bill & Adrienne Bradstreet*

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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**