



MAPLE STREET CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC
JULY 18, 2021 • SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Let Justice Flow Like Water —Amos 5:24
A worship service to celebrate God's living water!

PRELUDE

Ji Hye Jung

WELCOME

Rev. Pam Cochrane

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Rejoice in the Lord, for he has refreshed the parched earth.

All: We praise you, O God.

Leader: Rejoice for the rain that falls by night, and soaks at once into the dry ground, causing half-dried-up roots to swell, and the deep cracks in the earth to close.

All: We praise you, O God.

Leader: Rejoice for the great drops that fall at midday; rejoice in the small streams, singing on their way from the hills down into the valleys, to make the rivers swell and fill the reservoirs and supply the cities and irrigation channels with water.

All: We praise you, O God.

Leader: For the ground, for rain, for seeds and tools, for strength in arms and backs, for the will to work and for creative minds.

All: We praise you, O God. (AFRICA)

HYMN

Shall We Gather at the River

Tune: HANSON PLACE,
Words: Robert Lowry

1. Shall we gather at the river, where bright angel feet have trod,
With its crystal tide forever flowing by the throne of God?

REFRAIN: Yes, we'll gather at the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river,
Gather with the saints at the river that flows by the throne of God.

2. On the margin of the river, washing up its silver spray,
We will walk and worship ever, all the happy golden day. **REFRAIN**

3. As we reach the shining river, lay we every burden down;
Grace our spirits will deliver, and provide a robe and crown. **REFRAIN**

4. Soon we'll reach the shining river, soon our pilgrimage will cease;
Soon our happy hearts will quiver with the melody of peace. **REFRAIN**

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Leader: Holy Spirit, Life-giver, who moved over the waters in the creation, who led your people through the waters of the Red Sea to liberation, and who comforted your exiled people by the waters of Babylon, draw us together as we gather in your name.

All: Creator God, we thank you for your love in all creation, especially for your gift of water to sustain, refresh, and cleanse all life. We ask your blessing on this gathering. As we come together from many places and mingle the waters of our experience and faith, may we find sustenance, insight, and refreshment for the task of repairing our world.

In the name of the risen Christ we pray with the words Jesus taught his disciples to pray...

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.**

SUNG RESPONSE

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

SPECIAL MUSIC

The Water Is Wide
Kathy Gross, flute
Ji Hye Jung, keyboard

Tune: O WALY WALY,
arr. Brant Adams

READINGS

When the poor and needy seek water, I will open rivers on the bare heights, and fountains in the midst of the valleys; I will make the wilderness a pool of water, and the dry land springs of water. (Isaiah 41:17-18)

By the rivers in Fortaleza, we sat down and cried for the cholera victims. In those who lived there we saw sadness and we didn't know what to say. People who lived there did not have songs on their lips. They wanted joy but, with neither water nor health there was no way to be joyful. How could we sing praise to the Lord in the midst of such suffering? If we forget you, may we go thirsty. May our lips be dry if we forget you, if we don't bring back water, health, and joy. Judge, Lord, our elites, for their neglect and greed have long mistreated us. But remember Fortaleza, your children in Ceara that suffer from thirst and cholera; don't let the earth go dry. —An adaption of Psalm 137, by Napoleao Marcos Mendes of Fortaleza, the state capital of Ceara in Brazil.

*Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink?
(Matthew 25:37)*

LITANY OF INTENTIONS

Praise God For Water

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERING & PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

MESSAGE

"Waterfalls and Water For All!"

Rev. Pam Cochrane

HYMN OF RESPONSE

Let Justice Flow Like Streams

Tune: ST. THOMAS S.M.,
Words: Jane Parker Huber

1. Let justice flow like streams of sparkling water, pure,
Enabling growth, refreshing life, abundant, cleansing, sure.
2. Let righteousness roll on, as others' cares we heed,
An ever-flowing stream of faith translated into deed.
3. So may God's plumb line, straight, define our measure true,
And justice, right, and peace pervade this world our whole life through.

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

*The flowers this Sunday are given
In loving memory of Rollin Shannon
Given by Sally Shannon
&
In loving memory of Melissa Barrowclough
Given by Claire & Charles Poirier*

Maple Street Congregational Church, UCC

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Summer Outdoor Worship — Sundays at 10am

Zoom Prayer & Table Worship — Tuesdays at 6pm

Zoom Bible Study — Thursdays at 12noon

Summer Drop-In Hours with the Pastors — Tuesdays 10:00am - 1pm

Summer Church Office Hours: Monday - Thursday: 10 am – 1 pm

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