



## **MAPLE STREET CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC**

**SEPTEMBER 19, 2021 • TWENTY-FIFTH 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!*

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**PRELUDE**

Ji Hye Jung

**WELCOME**

Rev. Pam Cochrane

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (based on Psalm 1)

Come let us gather to worship God together.

Let us listen for God's word that we might put down our roots  
and drink deeply from the river of God's love and wisdom.

Come let us listen for God's word to us, and find joy in responding to it.

**HYMN***God of Abraham and Sarah*Tune: CONSTANTINE,  
Words: James Gertmenian

1. God of Abraham and Sarah, God of Moses, Miriam's Guide;  
God of David and the prophets, God in Jesus glorified:  
Up from the dust you raise a people, breathe in the breath of life, of soul;  
Down through the years the people praise you till alleluias make them whole!
2. God who dances in creation, spinning stars above our heads;  
God whose face is scribed in music, by whose hand the earth is fed:  
Up from the ground you raise the mountains, raise our spirits, lift our eyes;  
Down through the years your people praise you till alleluias flood the skies!
3. God who loves the poor in spirit, God who comforts those who mourn;  
Balm for wounds, the friend of sinners, taking the side of earth's forlorn:  
Up from the depths you raise your people, giving them courage for the day;  
Down through the years the people praise you till alleluias light their way!
4. In our lives from birth to dying, depth of sorrow, height of joy;  
Praising God in every season, let every key our hearts employ.  
Praise is the healing, praise the glory, praise is the final mystery;  
Down through the years let people praise you till alleluias set them free!

**PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Loving God, we are glad to come into your presence this day.

Thank you for welcoming us.

Thank you for forgiving us.

Thank you for challenging us to go from this place refreshed  
and to tell others of your love that has no limits. Amen.

**OPENING PRAYER**

Loving God, as the season changes and autumn gives way to summer  
we are aware of how you are present with us in the all the seasons  
and changing moments of our lives.

We give you thanks, and open ourselves to experiencing  
more of your presence in this time of worship. 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!**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PARDON**

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

*Gather Us In*  
Chancel Choir

Marty Haugen, arr. Lloyd Larson

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

*"Draw the Circle Wide"*

Rev. Pam Cochrane

*Draw the circle wide, draw it wider still. Let this be our song,  
No one stands alone, standing side by side. Draw the circle wide. (Gordon Light)*

**OFFERING**

**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!**

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

We offer to you, Holy One, the work of our hands, the thoughts of our hearts,  
the dedication of our spirits. Take all that we have and are, and use it to make  
the world a little closer to your hopes and dreams for us.  
In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

**SCRIPTURE READING** — Mark 9:30–37

**SERMON**

"Rooted In Love"

Rev. Pam Cochrane

**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.**

**HYMN OF RESPONSE**

*Praise God for This Congregation*

C.N. Gross

(Tune: AUSTRIAN HYMN)

Praise God for this congregation gathered here on Maple Street,  
Living years in love's devotion, joining hands with those we meet.  
Celebrate this Church's mission; tell of hope that we embrace.  
Christ has given us the vision in this sacred, holy place.

We are built on past foundations of a people strong and free,  
Off'ring us their affirmations in this faith community.  
God has led our parents forward by their labors true and right;  
Christ the promise, leading onward they who follow in this light.

Praise God for this congregation and the faith we dare to claim.  
Fix in us a new creation, calling one and all by name.  
Celebrate our new beginnings, linking us in unity.  
Christ empow'rs our deepest yearnings as we grow in ministry.

To the future now we journey, trusting God to lead our way.  
May the Spirit deem us worthy as we serve and as we pray.  
May this Church be ever standing for commitments large and small;  
Help us love and thus fulfilling God's high call unto us all.

**BENEDICTION**

We have put down our roots to drink from God's word.  
Now let us go forth to bear fruit in the world that God so loved.  
And may God's Spirit strengthen and nurture our child-like servant qualities  
so God's reign may be realized in our world.

**POSTLUDE**

Ji Hye Jung

*Our Worship together concludes with the Benediction.  
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  
Larry Drouin's sister Janet Griffin  
and his niece Linda Turgiss  
Given by Judy Drouin*

*The steeple is lit this week in celebration of  
Leo & Priscilla Curda's 63rd wedding anniversary*