



**MAPLE STREET CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC**  
**OCTOBER 10, 2021 • TWENTY-EIGHTH 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. Pam Cochrane

## PRELUDE

Ji Hye Jung

## CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God brought us safely through birth, and protected us when we were tiny babies.

**All: We praise you, O God, our loving Creator.**

One: From the day we were born, we have been in God's care.

**All: We praise you, O God, our loving Creator.**

One: We know that God hears us when we cry; God does not stay at a distance, but comes near to us.

**All: We praise you, O God, our loving Creator.**

One: With people everywhere, let us worship and give thanks to the God who created us and loves us still.

**All: We praise you, O God, our loving Creator.**

## HYMN

*Praise to the Living God*

Tune: DIADEMATA

Words: Curtis Beach

1. Praise to the living God, the God of love and light,  
Whose word brought forth the myriad suns and set the worlds in flight;  
Whose infinite design, which we but dimly see,  
Pervades all nature, making all a cosmic unity.
2. Praise to the living God, from whom all things derive,  
Whose spirit formed upon this sphere the first faint seeds of life;  
Who caused them to evolve, unwitting, toward God's goal,  
Till humankind stood on the earth, as living, thinking souls.
3. Praise to the living God, who knows our joy and pain,  
Who shares with us our common life, the sacred and profane.  
God toils where'er we toil, in home and mart and mill;  
And deep within the human heart God leads us forward still.
4. Praise to the living God, around, within, above,  
Beyond the grasp of human mind, but whom we know as love.  
In these tumultuous days, so full of hope and strife,  
May we bear witness to the Way, O Source and Goal of life.

## PRAYER OF INVOCATION (UNISON)

O God, you sowed the seeds of justice when you created this world. Though your bountiful creation has enough for everyone, it is hardly divided fairly. There are those who struggle to get their daily bread each day and then there are those who have more than they can use in their lifetime. May we remember that all we have comes from you and that you have entrusted to us all that we have. May we take your commandments to heart so we can do as Jesus asks of us. Grant that we, O God, use this hour to work in our ministries to end this disparity...

*In the name of one who makes all things possible we pray 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!**

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Almighty and Holy One, we cannot begin to count all our possessions. We have things in our closets, our attics, and our basements. We have things tucked away in boxes we haven't opened in years, and still we acquire more. We have so much stuff and yet, there are those in our communities who can fit all their worldly possessions in a shopping cart. We know that you, O God, will defend the poor and come to them in their need. But we, O God, need your forgiveness for we are more attached to our things than we willingly acknowledge. Help us confront our attachment to possessions and things more honestly so we can share our own abundance more equitably. Amen.

### **WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

We draw false and fleeting comfort from our material things. True comfort comes from God's love for us and by responding with that same love to family, friend, neighbor, and stranger. By God's love we are forgiven. Let us do likewise. Amen.

### **SPECIAL MUSIC**

*I Will Guide Thee*

arr. Peter Amidon

### **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

*(see insert)*

### **OFFERING**

### **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Generous God, we thank you for all that we have for all of it comes from you. We gratefully return a portion of what we have to you. May our offerings sustain and support the work of this church to close the disparity between those who have much and those who have little in this community. Amen.

### **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!**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Rev. Douglas Vooyo

**SCRIPTURE READING** — Mark 10:17-35

**SERMON**

“Impossible or Possible?”

Rev. Pam Cochrane

**HYMN OF RESPONSE**

*Community of Christ*

Tune: LEONI;  
Words: Shirley Erena Murray

1. Community of Christ, who make the Cross your own,  
Live out your creed and risk your life for God alone:  
The God who wears your face, to whom all worlds belong,  
Whose children are of every race and every song.
2. Community of Christ, look past the church's door  
And see the refugee, the hungry, and the poor.  
Take hands with the oppressed, the jobless in your street,  
Take towel and water, that you wash your neighbor's feet.
3. Community of Christ, through whom the word must sound —  
Cry out for justice and for peace the whole world 'round:  
Disarm the powers that war, and all that can destroy,  
Turn bombs to bread and tears of anguish into joy.
4. When menace melts away, so shall God's will be done,  
The climate of the world be peace and Christ its Sun;  
Our currency be love and kindness our law,  
Our food and faith be shared as one forevermore.

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

Ji Hye Jung

*The flowers this Sunday are in loving memory of  
Donald C. Thomas, Jr.  
Given by Don & Eileen Thomas*

*The steeple is lit this week in loving memory of  
Mary J. and Joseph S. Barnes, married on October 12, 1956  
and Elizabeth G. and John M. Barnes, Sr., married on October 12, 1928  
Given by Janet Barnes and Jeffrey Barnes*