



MAPLE STREET CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC
NOVEMBER 21, 2021 • SERVICE OF INGATHERING,
WORLD SERVICE BLESSING, & THANKSGIVING FOOD DONATION

WELCOME

Rev. Douglas Vooyis

PRELUDE

Now Thank We All Our God/Let All Things Now Living

Hymn tunes: NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT & ASH GROVE; Arr: Brant Adams

Kathy Gross, flute

Ji Hye Jung, piano

INTROIT

All Things Bright and Beautiful

Tune: ROYAL OAK;

Ashayla Brennan & Alyla Brennan Words: Cecil F. Alexander

Judy Bonnell, piano

CALL TO WORSHIP (Adapted Psalm 100)

Leader: Let us make a joyful noise to the Lord.

People: Let us worship the Lord with gladness;

Leader: Let us come into God's presence with singing.

People: God, You are the Holy One our Lord. It is You who made us, and we are Yours; we are Your people, and the sheep of Your pasture.

Leader: We enter Your gates with thanksgiving, and Your courts with praise. We give thanks to You, we bless Your holy name.

People: For You are good; Your steadfast love endures forever, and Your faithfulness to all generations.

Leader: Let us sing praises to the Lord.

All: Praise God in his sanctuary, let us continue us praise God through worship and song, Amen.

***HYMN**

We Gather Together

Tune: KREMSER; Words: Tr. Theodore Baker

1. We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing,
He chastens and hastens his will to make known;
The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing.
Sing praises to his name; he forgets not his own.
2. Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining,
Ordaining, maintaining his kingdom divine,
So from the beginning the fight we were winning;
Thou, Lord, wast at our side, all glory be thine.
3. We all do extol thee, thou leader triumphant,
And pray that thou still our defender wilt be.
Let thy congregation escape tribulation.
Thy name be ever praised! O, Lord, make us free!

**Please stand as you are able.*

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION (UNISON)**

God of abundant love, you made a world full of beauty and bounty. In this season of Thanksgiving, may our gratitude to You flourish in our acts of kindness to one another, and our care of the earth. May we live and work with sustainability in mind and in our hearts. May our way of life conform to Your intention for us, to care for the earth and its creatures, to love our neighbors and meet their needs, to build the beloved community here on earth as it is in heaven. May we care for this planet, for it is the only one You made for us, and in gratitude may we take care of it for the generations that will come after us. In the name of the creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer we pray, 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!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We confess, O God, that your call to love others the way you have loved us is not easy for us. In order to love us, you had to look beyond our flaws, you had to show us mercy when we did not deserve it, and you had to embrace us even when we had rejected and went our own way. Such patient love does not come naturally to us, and so while we have heard your call to love, we know of our own inclinations to hold grudges, to withhold mercy and to cling tightly to our old comfortable animosities. Let your mercy toward us create the capacity for mercy in us that we become ever more like Jesus, in whom and through whom you have brought grace to the world. We pray in the name him who holds and loves us unconditionally, in that grace and mercy Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Friends in Christ, Rejoice, for through God's love we are made new,
thanks be to God, Amen!

SPECIAL MUSIC

Look at the World
Chancel Choir

John Rutter

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Douglas Vooy

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.

Please bring your donations for People-to-People Food Pantry down to the altar.

INGATHERING HYMN *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come* Tune: ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR
Words: Henry Alford

1. Come, ye thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home.
All is safely gathered in ere the winter storms begin.
God, our Maker, doth provide, for our wants to be supplied;
Come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.
2. All the blessings of the field, all the stores the gardens yield.
All the fruits in full supply, ripened 'neath the summer sky.
All that spring with bounteous hand scatters o'er the smiling land,
All that liberal autumn pours from her rich o'erflowing stores.
3. These to thee, our God, we owe, source whence all our blessings flow;
And for these our souls shall raise grateful vows and solemn praise.
Come, then, thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home;
Come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.

INGATHERING BLESSING— Litany of Thanksgiving (adapted by Psalm 96) Mike Polagye

Leader: Today we offer our thanksgiving and gratitude to the Giver of all good and perfect gifts,

People: The Lord be praised.

Leader: For the tables we share and the bread we partake of within our communities, within our families, and within our homes,

People: The Lord be praised.

Leader: For the hands of friendship that have been extended to us and the grace we have received,

People: The Lord be praised.

Leader: For Your continual provision in our lives that we share with others

People: The Lord be praised.

Leader: For the embrace of love,

People: The Lord be praised.

Leader: For Your mercies that are new at dawn and sustain us through the day, echoing through the night

People: The Lord be praised

Leader: For the gift of your son, Jesus Christ,

People: The Lord be praised.

Leader: For new life found in your love

People: The Lord be praised.

Leader: In all things, we give You thanks and join with creation's song,

All: Great is the Lord and most worthy to be praised.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (UNISON)

God of creation, thank you for the wonderful things you have made. Thank you for the universe full of stars and the planet. Thank you for the world, full of life. Thank you for making each one of us. Take these gifts, all of them that we now offer back to you. May they be used to the glory of your name. We offer you ourselves and a portion of the gifts you have blessed us with. Take us and use us to share your love with the world, 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!**

SCRIPTURE READING — Matthew 15:32-39

Mike Polagye

SERMON

“Needed Food”

Rev. Douglas Vooyos

***HYMN OF RESPONSE**

Now Thank We All Our God

Tune: NUN DANKET
Words: Johann Cruger

1. Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices,
Who, from our parents' arms, has blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.
2. O, may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,
And keep us still in grace, and guide us when perplexed,
And free us from all ills in this world and the next.
3. All praise and thanks to God our Maker now be given,
To Christ and Spirit, too, our help in highest heaven,
The one eternal God, whom earth and heaven adore,
For thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

BENEDICTION

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 steeple is lit this week in loving memory of
Janelle Tobin
Given by the Lavender & Tobin family*