



God  
is still  
speaking,

“Never place a period  
where God has placed a comma”

| Gracie Allen |

## **Welcome to Worship**

**October 10, 2021**

**9:30 AM**



Rev. Alex Molozaiy, Pastor

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore you, God of glo - ry, God of love;  
 2 All your works with joy sur - round you, earth and heaven re - flect your rays,  
 3 You are giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blessed,  
 4 Mor - tals, join the might - y cho - rus which the morn - ing stars be - gan;

Hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore you, open - ing to the sun a - bove.  
 Stars and an - gels sing a - round you, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.  
 Well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean depth of hap - py rest!  
 Bound - less love is reign - ing o'er us, re - con - cil - ing race and clan.

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the storms of doubt a - way;  
 Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flower - y mead - ow, flash - ing sea,  
 Lov - ing Spir - it, Fa - ther, Moth - er, all who love be - long to you;  
 Ev - er sing - ing, move we for - ward, faith - ful in the midst of strife,

Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.  
 Chant - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain, teach us what our praise should be.  
 Teach us how to love each oth - er, by that love our joy re - new.  
 Joy - ful mu - sic leads us on - ward in the tri - umph song of life.

# THIS MORNING'S ORDER OF WORSHIP

## WE GATHER AS THE PEOPLE OF GOD

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### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### PRELUDE

“Brethren, We Have Met to Worship”

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: We have gathered here this morning  
from the busyness of our lives, to pause,

**ALL: Like a comma in a sentence,**

LEADER: To catch our breath and renew our spirits.

**ALL: You are welcome here.**

LEADER: Come close; gather in, God is here.

**ALL: Christ is present. Hear the whispers of grace.**

LEADER: The Spirit is moving among us, blessing us with peace.

**ALL: Sense the hope and embrace the joy.  
Welcome home, people of God!**

#### OPENING HYMN

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You” ..... *Facing Page*

#### OPENING PRAYER (UNISON)

O loving God, author and shaper of community, you promised  
that where two or three are gathered, you would be among them.

Here we are — two, three and many more —  
families, friends, pilgrims, seekers.

Come among us, Spirit of God. Knit us together in all our variety.

Speak a bold word to us this day that we might be  
moved to respond as your beloved community. Amen.

**WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD**

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**SCRIPTURE READING**

Gospel reading ..... **Luke 24:13-31**

*The many post-resurrection appearances of Jesus remind us that we can experience Christ in our own time and place and are called to proclaim the message of God's grace to all people.*

Epistle reading ..... **Revelation 1:8**

*The intense vision of John's revelation begins with a reminder that God is the beginning and the end of everything.*

**SERMON**

“People of the Comma”

*Rev. Lois A. Bucher*

**WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD**

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**\*HYMN OF RESPONSE**

“Great Is Your Faithfulness” ..... **423**

1 Great is your faith - ful - ness, O God, Cre - a - tor,\*  
2 Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,  
3 Par - don for sin and a peace so en - dur - ing,

with you no shad - ow of turn - ing we see.  
sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove,  
your own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Great Is Your Faithfulness". It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 2/4. The lyrics are written below the treble clef staff. The first system contains the first three lines of the hymn, and the second system contains the final three lines. The music is written in a simple, accessible style suitable for congregational singing.

You do not change, your com - pas - sions they fail not;  
 Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness  
 Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,

all of your good - ness for - ev - er will be.  
 to your great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.  
 bless - ings all mine with ten thou - sand be - side.

*Refrain*

Great is your faith-ful-ness! Great is your faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by

morn-ing new mer - cies I see; All I have need - ed your

hand has pro - vid - ed, Great is your faith - ful - ness, God, un - to me!

**SHARING OF JOYS/CONCERNS**

**PASTORAL PRAYER, SILENT PRAYER, AND THE LORD’S PRAYER**

*Please use “forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.”*

**WE ARE SENT OUT TO LIVE THE WORD OF GOD**

**CLOSING HYMN**

“Take My Life, God, Let It Be” .....448

1 Take my life, God, let it be con - se - crat - ed faith - ful - ly.  
 2 Take my spir - it, let it move at the im - pulse of your love.  
 3 Take my will; your will be done! Make your will and mine be one.  
 4 Take my love and help it grow; let my lov - ing ov - er - flow.

Take my mo - ments and my days, let them flow in cease - less praise.  
 Take my in - tel - lect and use all its pow - ers as you choose.  
 Take my heart, and by your grace make of it your dwell - ing place.  
 Take me now, and help me be part of Christ’s com - mu - ni - ty.

**BLESSING AND SENDING**

**POSTLUDE**

“He Is Lord”

*Please wait in your pew until the ushers dismiss each by rows and proceed outdoors unless you are attending to necessity or are actively in a volunteer role. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.*



## THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to our Guest Preacher this morning, the Rev. Lois A. Bucher, recently retired as the associate minister of First Congregational Church of Elgin after over 20 years in the position.

In her words, in her ministry she tried to "connect people to their faith and to God, to help them live as disciples."

Her work has concentrated on retreat leadership, pastoral care of people who were confined to their homes and leading 21 mission trips around the country to help youth and adults discover joy and God in serving others.

## THE CHURCH WEEK AT A GLANCE

Live links to the Zoom meetings listed are available on our website at [communityprotestant.org/calendar](http://communityprotestant.org/calendar)

**Monday, October 11th, 2021**

**Location/Room #**

**Office Closed—Indigenous Peoples' Day**

**Tuesday, October 12th, 2021**

**7:00 pm Trustees' Board**

**Zoom #878 1742 2233**

**Next Sunday, October 17th, 2021**

**8:00 am Adult Bible Study**

**Zoom # 989 1194 3341**

**9:30 am Worship**

**Live or Online via Website or Facebook**

## WE ARE A COMMUNITY OF PRAYER

### Prayer Concerns

Robert Collins.....Friend of Milly Clark.....Health Concern  
Cheri Daniels.....Sister of Lorraine Kocian .....Health Concern  
Darlene.....Cousin of Nancy Adams.....General Concern  
Sherri & Joelle H.....Friends of Nan Adams.....Grief Concern  
Judy Helge.....Church Member.....Health Concern  
Mia .....Friend of Nan Adams .....Health Concern  
Anne Montesanto.....Friend of Milly Clark.....Grief/Health Concern  
Ginny Olson.....Friend of Wanda Knautz.....Health Concern  
Robin Petty.....Sister of Claudia Burgett.....Health Concern  
Sam Sances .....Friend of Dom & Nan Adams.....Health Concern  
Sandy .....Sister in-Law of Lee Weinbrenner .....Health Concern  
Richard Wells.....Friend of Sherri Gallagher.....Health Concern

### In Nursing or Retirement Homes

Doraleigh Athanatos.....200 N 7th Ave #113, Sturgeon Bay WI 54235  
Judy Helge.....10 Hawthorn Pkwy #324, Vernon Hills, IL 60061-1437  
Laurel Herman.....10 Hawthorn Pkwy #339, Vernon Hills, IL 60061-1437  
Dorothy Janda.....10 Hawthorn Pkwy #210, Vernon Hills, IL 60061-1437  
Doris Nehmer .....180 W Half Day Rd #253 Buffalo Grove IL 60089-6522  
Betty Todd.....c/o Allen Sievert 215 Rhett Ln Elkton MD 21921-2059

## Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

October 10, 2021

Mark 10:17-31

### **“WHAT MUST I DO?”**

Many years ago, ordained United Church of Christ disability rights activist Harold Wilke (1915–2003) wrote, “The festivals of the religious year show forth new meanings for access and liberation: In the glory of Easter – the stone rolled away – we see the barrier removed. In the wonder of Pentecost, the message is heard, understood, and seen by all. In the liberating act of Passover, the message is: “Let My People Go!” and the parting of the Red Sea. In the joy of Advent, God embodies divinity in human form.”

Yet, for many persons today...the barriers still remain; The stone is still in place; The waters are not parted, the way not opened; The words cannot be heard; The flame of the Spirit’s tongues cannot be seen, the message not understood.

Proclaiming the message in all languages for today means using Braille or larger print for people with visual disabilities, signing or special sound systems for persons with hearing disabilities; image, color and drama for people with cognitive disabilities; architectural access for people with physical disabilities or who are getting older.

Let the stone be rolled away! Let the glorious message be proclaimed truly, in all languages so all may hear and understand!”

Wilke’s stirring words begin the guidebook entitled, “Anybody, Everybody, Christ’s body: A Guide for Congregations, Associations and Conferences in Becoming Accessible To All (A2A)”. This guide is invaluable to those congregations that fear that becoming truly physically accessible in their church buildings is fiscally out of reach. After all, the idea of putting in a new elevator or enhanced sound system might seem daunting.

The A2A guidebook is a reminder that just as important as physical and fiscal shifts, are changes in habits and attitudes. While these may take time and spiritual effort, the effect on the church budget may be less than is feared. The process of becoming accessible to all (A2A) begins with an audit of your space, which you can find, along with the A2A guidebook, at the website for the United Church of Christ Disabilities Ministry ([uccdm.org](http://uccdm.org)).