

Rev. Sara MacGilvra Branom, preaching

Thank you for participating in a unified worship of First Congregational United Church of Christ and Christ United Methodist Church. We hope your participation in the service is meaningful in the ways you need it to be.

Gathering Music

Greeting and Announcements

Transition to Worship

Prelude

**Call to Worship

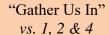
One: The Spirit of God has called us to this place and time. **Many: We gather to hear God's liberating word of love.** One: Today, past and future meet in the holiness of now.

Many: May the Spirit of God at work in Jesus, also work in us. One: May the vision of flourishing for all be imprinted on our hearts.

Many: And may it be enacted in our lives!

**Prayer of Invocation (unison)

Gracious God, anoint us anew with your Holy Spirit of love. By it, form our hearts, minds, and lives into channels of your good news. Grant us a renewed passion for your vision of a world where none are poor and where every weight is lifted. Cultivate your courageous compassion in us to move toward any who have been marginalized or run over by the world. Yes, bless and strengthen us to bless and strengthen others. We pray this in the name of the one whose life fulfilled your holy vision, Jesus our Christ. Amen.





Children's Message

What's in the Bag Today?

Sending Song (Sara)

Jesus Loves You

NCH #327 (adapted)

Jesus loves you! This we know, for the Bible tells us so. Little ones to him belong; they are weak, but he is strong. Yes, Jesus loves you! Yes, Jesus loves you! Yes, Jesus loves you! The Bible tells us so!

Scripture Reading

Luke 4:14-21

Then Jesus, in the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding region. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me

to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives

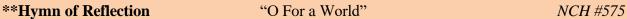
and recovery of sight to the blind,

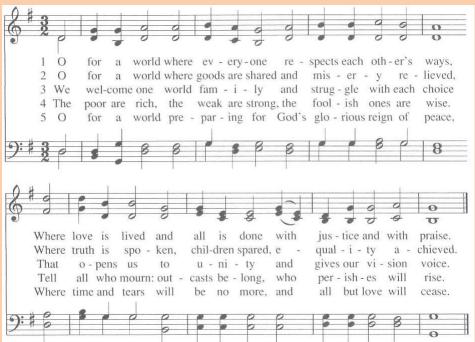
to set free those who are oppressed,

to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

Sermon





Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Spoken Prayer and 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 sins

as we forgive those who sin 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.

Invitation to Generosity

Our ministries rely on the generosity of our members and friends. If you would like to make a financial contribution to support our work in Great Falls and beyond, you can send checks to P.O. Box 6303, Great Falls, MT 59406 or use the corresponding QR codes.

First Congregational UCC Donations:

Christ United Methodist Church Donations:





Offertory

"How Can I Keep from Singing?"

arr. L. Larson

**Presentation and Doxology

UMH #94

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 power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication (unison)

We give, O God, because you first love. You love creation. You love your church. You love us. Every one of us. We give, O God, in gratitude and hope that your love will not stop with us. Let us and the gifts we give be phenomenal expressions of faith and love. Amen.

**Closing Hymn

"Lead on Eternal Sovereign"

NCH #573



Benediction

Postlude

Participants in Today's Service

1	
Minister	Rev. Sara MacGilvra Branom
Liturgist	Rev. Paul Holland
Ushers	Jenn and Zurie Goss
Acolytes	Jullian Valley and Ellie Bucher
	Eric Dunn
	Dave Neagle

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Acknowledgments

Call to Worship, Invocation, and Benediction were written by the Rev. Dr. David Long-Higgins, Conference Minister of the Heartland Conference of the United Church of Christ. Invitation to Generosity, Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication by Lynne Spencer-Smith