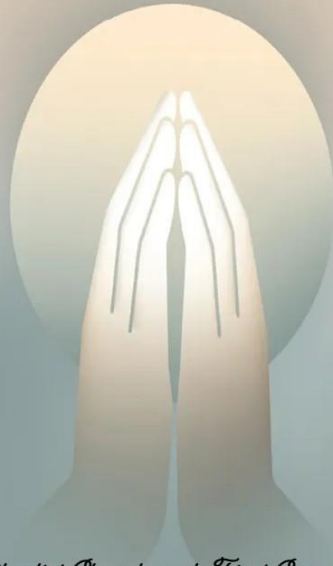


*United Spirit
Community
Church*



A federation of Christ United Methodist Church and First Congregational United Church of Christ

Thank you for participating in worship with United Spirit Community Church, a federation of Christ United Methodist Church and First Congregational United Church of Christ. We hope your presence in the service is meaningful in the ways you need it to be.

Gathering Music “Knowing You (All I once Held Dear)” *arr. Mark Hayes*

Greeting and Announcements

Transition to Worship

Prelude “I Surrender All” *arr. Glenda Austin*

****Call to Worship –**

Leader: As the deer pants for streams of water,

All: so my soul pants for you, my God.

Leader: My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.

All: When can I go and meet with God?

Leader: Now. For wherever you go, God is there, waiting to hear the sound of your voice. What will you say to the Holy One?

All: I will pour out the thoughts of my innermost being to my Creator. I will shout them.

I will scream them. I will sing them. I will weep them. I will speak them. I will whisper them. And my God shall hear them.

Leader: Children of God, together let us pray to our God who knows our innermost thoughts and hears our every prayer.

Opening Prayer

Almighty God who hears us, we come to you together. Some of us are weary. Others are excited. Some are joyful. Others are sad. Some are healthy. Others are sick. Yet we come to you as one, asking for you to move with your Spirit in our midst to heal, comfort, and energize us. Open our ears to hear your voice. Open our mouths to speak to you the thoughts of our innermost being. For the sake of love and justice, in Jesus’ name we pray, amen.

****Opening Hymn**

“Psalm 139: The Searcher of Hearts”

The Psalter

1. O Lord, my in-most heart and thought Thy search-ing eye doth see;
 2. Each spo-ken word, each si-lent tho't, Thou, Lord, dost un-der-stand;
 3. If I the wings of morn-ing take To some re-mot-est land,
 4. From Thee, O Lord, I can-not hide, Tho' dark-ness cov-er me;
 5. Search me, O God, and know my heart, Try me, my tho'ts to know;

Wher-e'er I rest, wher-e'er I go, My ways are known to Thee.
 Be-fore me and be-hind art Thou, Re-strain-ing by Thy hand.
 Still I shall be up-held by Thee And guid-ed by Thy hand.
 The dark-ness and the light of day Are both a-like to Thee.
 O lead me, if in sin I stray, In paths of life to go.

Children’s Message

Sending Song

“Every Time I Feel the Spirit I will Pray”

NCH #282 refrain only

Refrain

Ev-ery time I feel the Spir-it mov-ing in my heart I will
 pray. Yes, ev-ery time I feel the Spir-it mov-ing
 in my heart I will pray.

Last time, end

1 Up-on the moun-tain my God
 2 Oh, Jor-dan riv-er, chil-ly and

Scripture Reading

Psalm 19:1-4, Luke 11:1-2

Psalm 19:1-4 NRSV

The heavens are telling the glory of God;
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.
Day to day pours forth speech,
and night to night declares knowledge.
There is no speech, nor are there words;
their voice is not heard;
yet their voice goes out through all the earth,
and their words to the end of the world.

Luke 11:1-2 NRSV

[Jesus] was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples."

He said to them, "When you pray, say:"

All: In these ancient words, let us hear the living word of God today.

Sermon

"When You Pray, *Say*"

****Hymn of Reflection**

"Not My Brother, Nor My Sister"

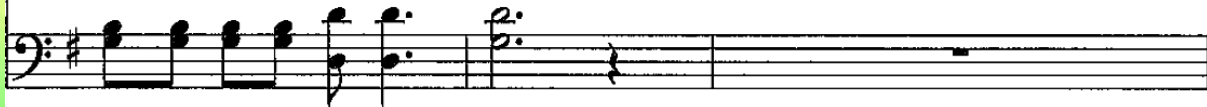
NCH #519



1 Not my broth - er, nor my sis - ter, but it's me, O God,
 2 Not the preach - er, nor the dea - con, but it's me, O God,
 3 Not my fa - ther, nor my moth - er, but it's me, O God,
 4 Not the strang - er, nor my neigh - bor, but it's me, O God,



stand - ing in the need of prayer; Not my broth - er, nor my sis - ter, but it's
 stand - ing in the need of prayer; Not the preach - er, nor the dea - con, but it's
 stand - ing in the need of prayer; Not my fa - ther, nor my moth - er, but it's
 stand - ing in the need of prayer; Not the strang - er, nor my neigh - bor, but it's

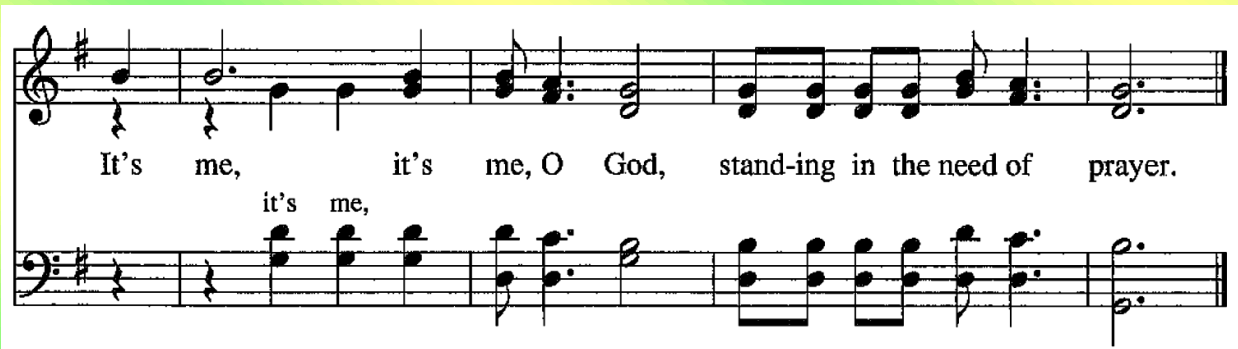


me, O God, stand - ing in the need of prayer.
 me, O God, stand - ing in the need of prayer. It's
 me, O God, stand - ing in the need of prayer.
 me, O God, stand - ing in the need of prayer.



me, it's me, O God, stand - ing in the need of prayer;
 it's me,





James Weldon Johnson included this African-American spiritual in his historic collection of 1925, The Book of American Negro Spirituals. It was popularized by Mahalia Jackson, who specialized in such spirituals when she began her public singing career.

Tune: NEED OF PRAYER 13.7.13.7. with refrain
African-American spiritual

Receiving of New Members

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 the Offering

Leader: Children of God, as God's holy people, let us be compassionate, kind, humble, gentle, and patient. Let us use our time, talents, and treasures to serve those around us.

All: Whatever we do, in word or deed, let us do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Offertory

"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

arr. Victor Labenske

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 UMC Donations:



****Presentation and Doxology**

Derived from Psalm 117

**Praise our Lord God
All ye nations
All ye people, praise proclaim
For God's grace and lovingkindness
O sing praises to God's name
For the greatness of God's mercy
Constant praise to God accord
Evermore God's truth endureth
Hallelujah, praise the Lord!**

****Prayer of Dedication**

Almighty God who hears us, accept these gifts we return to you. Multiply them to do your work in our world. May our gifts feed the hungry, clothe the naked, heal the sick, and make peace amongst people. For the sake of Jesus Christ, our hope of glory, we pray, Amen.

****Closing Hymn**

"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

UMH #526

1. What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our
 2. Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there
 3. Are we weak and heav - y la - den, cum - bered

sins and griefs to bear! What a priv - i - lege to car - ry
 trou - ble an - y - where? We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged;
 with a load of care? Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge;

ev - ery - thing to God in prayer! O what peace we of - ten
 take it to the Lord in prayer. Can we find a friend so
 take it to the Lord in prayer. Do thy friends de - spise, for -

for - feit, O what need - less pain we bear, all be -
 faith - ful who will all our sor - rows share? Je - sus
 sake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer! In his

cause we do not car - ry ev - ery - thing to God in prayer.
 knows our ev - ery weak - ness; take it to the Lord in prayer.
 arms he'll take and shield thee; thou wilt find a sol - ace there.

WORDS: Joseph M. Scriven, ca. 1855
 MUSIC: Charles C. Converse, 1868

CONVERSE
87.87 D

****Benediction**

****Sending Song**

“Go, My Children, with My Blessing”

NCH #82 v. 1

1 Go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing, nev - er a - lone;
2 Go, my chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, clos - er to me;

Wak - ing, sleep-ing, I am with you, you are my own;
Grow in love and love by serv-ing, joy - ful and free.

In my love's bap - tis-mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er,
Here my Spir - it's pow-er filled you, here with ten - der com-fort stilled you;

Go, my chil - dren, with my bless-ing, you are my own.
Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour-ished, joy - ful and free.

For marriage services, this stanza may be sung between stanzas 1 and 2 above.

In this un-ion I have joined you hus-band and wife,
Now, my chil-dren, live to-geth-er as heirs of life:
Each the oth-er's glad-ness shar-ing,
each the oth-er's bur-dens bear-ing,
Now, my chil-dren, live to-geth-er as heirs of life.

American hymnwriter and translator Jaroslav Vajda crafted this benediction text as though God were “dismissing the congregation after worship, while drawing together a review of the events that transpired during the service.” The wedding stanza was a later addition.

Tune: AR HYD Y NOS 8.4.8.4.8.8.8.4.
Traditional Welsh melody
For another harmonization, see 425

Postlude

“Joyful, Joyful”

*arr. Glenda Austin**(please exit during the postlude)***Acknowledgments**

The call to worship contains Psalm 42:1-2; the invitation to the offering is inspired by Colossians 3:12-17. Other liturgy inspired by the language of Matthew 25. “Psalm 139: The Searcher of Hearts” from *The Psalter*, a publication of the United Presbyterian Board of Publication in 1912. Psalm 117. Pastor Laura often quotes phrases or sentences from the NIV translation of Scripture when preaching. This is not intended as plagiarism but is due to her familiarity with that version of the Bible. Sometimes in storytelling, it may be impossible while listening to differentiate between what is paraphrased and what is quoted. All music is part of the public domain or is used with permission by St James Music Press, license No. 29302 and OneLicense, license No. A-727303.