



ames UCC
United Church of Christ

Just Peace, Open & Affirming

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**No Matter Who You Are Or Where You Are
On Life's Journey, You Are Welcome Here!**

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

February 23, 2014

*Means those who are able please stand

Songs: SP & P - Sing, Prayer & Praise; NCH - New Century Hymnal

Bold face indicates where the congregation is invited to join in saying the words

Ringing the Bell

Greeting and Announcements

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Centering Music

"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

arr. A. Jordan

Allow the music to help you focus your soul for worship as you listen in silence.

***Call to Worship** adapted from Matthew 5:45-48

God makes the sun rise on both the evil and the good.

God showers rain on the just and the unjust, alike.

If we love only those who love us, what good does that do?

We gather to share God's perfect, all-encompassing love.

***Gathering Song NCH #400 "Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation"**

***Silent Confession ending with: (3x)**

Ostinato Refrain

Take, O take me as I am; sum - mon out what I shall
be; set your seal up-on my heart and live in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b.1949
Tune: John L. Bell, b.1949
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***Assurance of Forgiveness**

***Sharing Christ's Peace**

Take, O take me as I am; summon out what I shall be;

Set your seal upon my heart and live in me.

Children's Message

The Rev. Terry Hamilton-Poore

Sung Prayer for Illumination NCH #451 "Be Now My Vision" v. 1

Be now my vision, O God of my heart;

nothing surpasses the love you impart--

You my best thought, by day or by night,

waking or sleeping, your presence my light.

Scripture Readings

Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18 (Please read responsively)

1 The Lord spoke to Moses, saying:

Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them: You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy.

9 When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap to the very edges of your field, or gather the gleanings of your harvest.

10 **You shall not strip your vineyard bare, or gather the fallen grapes of your vineyard; you shall leave them for the poor and the alien: I am the Lord your God.**

11 You shall not steal; you shall not deal falsely; and you shall not lie to one another. 12 And you shall not swear falsely by my name, profaning the name of your God: I am the Lord.

13 You shall not defraud your neighbor; you shall not steal; and you shall not keep for yourself the wages of a laborer until morning.

14 You shall not revile the deaf or put a stumbling block before the blind; you shall fear your God: I am the Lord.

15 You shall not render an unjust judgment; you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbor.

16 You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not profit by the blood of your neighbor: I am the Lord. 17 You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin; you shall reprove your neighbor, or you will incur guilt yourself.

18 You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord.

1 Corinthians 3:10-11, 13-23 (pg. 203-204 in the NT of your pew Bible)

Sung Response NCH #451 "Be Now My Vision" v. 2
*Be now my wisdom, and be my true word;
ever within me, my soul is assured;
Mother and Father, you are both to me,
now and forever your child I will be.*

Sermon

Phyllis Tickle

***Song** NCH #553 "There Is a Balm in Gilead"

Prayers of the People beginning with: (2x)

Ostinato Chorale

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer:
when I call an - swer me. O Lord, hear my prayer, O
Lord, hear my prayer. Come and lis - ten to me. O

Text: Psalm 102; Taizé Community, 1982
Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1973-1994
© 1982, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

The Lord's Prayer

Please join in praying the following, or whatever version is most meaningful to you:

**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 debts,
as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Offering of Gifts

"Amazing Grace"

arr. Jay Rouse

The gifts of the world, of this day, of our lives, come to us from God's open hands. Let us now open our hands in gratitude.

Prayer of Dedication

These gifts are our sign of gratitude to you. Through them, may hungry hearts be fed; through them, may others know your joy. Amen.

Song NCH#476

"My Life Flows on in Endless Song"

***Commissioning and Blessing**

***Sending Music**

Today's Worship Leaders

Liturgist: Charles Kniker

Guest Speaker: Phyllis Tickle

Interim Minister: Rev. Terry Hamilton-Poore

Children & Youth Minister: Hannah Hannover

Youth Minister: Linda Hanson

Music Director: Lesley Lackore

Keyboardist: Karen Stewart