



DOUGLAS UCC
A JUST WORLD FOR ALL

Order of Service for Sunday, January 28, 2024

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Thank you for joining us today.

For Announcements, Birthdays, Anniversaries, and Prayer List, [visit this week's E-Pistle here](#), where you can also subscribe to receive it by email, if you like.

***- stand if you wish to, and are able.**

Congregational Responses in Bold

Prelude *There is a Balm in Gilead*

Peter Black

(Please use this time for quiet reflection and preparation for worship)

Welcome & Announcements

Lighting of Altar Candles & Ringing in the Hour

Let us recognize the light of the world within us and ring in the hour of worship.

Introit (please stand) *Arise! Shine!*

Arise, shine, for your light has come!

And the glory of our God has risen upon you like the sun.

Lift your eyes, look around, rejoice.

Lift your eyes, look around, rejoice.

Call to Worship

Reader: Ginny Mikita

One: I will give thanks to God with my whole heart.

All: Great are the works of God, studied by all who delight in them.

One: Full of honor and majesty is God's work.

All: God has gained renown by wonderful deeds.

One: God has shown the people the power of God's works.

All: God is gracious and merciful. God's righteousness endures forever.

One: The works of God's hands are faithful and just.

All: All God's precepts are trustworthy.

One: Holy and awesome is God's name.

All: I will give thanks to God with my whole heart. Amen.

Opening Hymn *Joys Are Flowing Like a River*

(Black New Century Hymnal No.284)

(See music at the end of this document)

Unison Prayer

Prayer for Health & Human Services Sunday, UCC.org

Loving God, we pray that all of your children might be safe from harm and go to sleep with bellies satisfied and minds at ease. We pray that every senior might be cared for with compassion, receiving the attention they need to thrive in mind and body. We pray that every youth might be inspired to follow their dreams and offer this world the beauty of their gifts. But we know this is not always the case and that many of our neighbors are left out in the cold, hungry for food and hungry for love. So keep us fired up, O God, filled with passion for ministries that address human needs and that move us to address the wrongs that cause suffering and injustice. Holy One, bless the many ministries of healing and human service which are vibrant signs of your love made real, and bless the hands and hearts of those who provide meals and shelter and guidance. Amen.

Assurance of Grace and Peace

One: Peace be with you.

Many: *And also with you.*

One: Let us offer one another a sign of Peace.

Passing the Peace *Passing of Peace*

There is peace, there is hope, and it's not so far away.

There is peace, there is hope, and it's not so far away.

Words of Integration & Guidance

Daily Word

Many persons run an emotional gauntlet day after day, feeling depressed or happy, irritated or pleased according to what is happening in their outer lives. They do not realize that they have God-given authority over their emotions and thoughts. When we have lived under the dictatorship of reaction habits that cast our spirits down or lead us into unconstructive uses of our energies, we need to make a definite and positive effort to take the control, to exercise the authority that God has given us. The most effective way to do this is through affirmative prayer. Through affirmative prayer we not only get a truer, more inspiring vision of ourselves, but we release the power needed to sustain us in authority. Any person who has been possessed and dictated to by negative emotions and habits can gain freedom. It is truly a day of liberation when a person awakens to the truth that God has given him authority over his thoughts and attitudes. When we exercise the authority that God has given us, we experience freedom and peace.

Power to Do

The Words of Holy Scripture

One: A Reading of Scripture from 1 Corinthians 8:1-7

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

All: Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Lesson

One: The Holy Gospel according to Mark 1:21-28

All: Glory to you, O Christ.

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Homily

"Strange Things Happen"

Rev. Fred Hamlin

Offering & Offertory

Be Still and Know

Jeff Spangler

by Stephen Curtis Chapman

Joys & Concerns/Tibetan Prayer Bell

One: Thanks be to God!

Many: *Alleluia!*

One: O God,

Many: *Hear our prayer.*

***Doxology** *Grateful*

*Grateful for the life You give us, Thankful for your Holy son,
Joyful in your Spirit flowing over all O God of Love.*

*Grateful for the bread of heaven, Thankful for your Holy word,
Joyful in your mercy flowing, we will praise you.*

***Celebration of Holy Communion**

One: God be with you.

Many: *And also with you.*

One: Lift up your hearts.

Many: *We lift them up to God.*

One: Let us give thanks to God.

Many: *It is good to give God thanks & praise*

***Creation's Praise**

Santo Santo Santo, santo, santo, mi corazon te adora.

Mi corazon te sabe decir, santo eros Dios.

Holy, holy, holy, my heart, my heart adores you.

My heart is glad to say the words, You are holy God.

(Please be seated)

Breaking of the Bread

Come to the Table Come to the table of peace.

Come to the table of grace.

This is Christ's table not just yours or mine.

Come to the table of love.

Sharing of the Bread & Cup

(grape juice only on both sides of the aisle)

Receive the Bread of Life. *Amen.*

The Cup of Love, the Drink of Compassion. *Amen.*

***The Lord's Prayer**

Our Mother/Father, always and everywhere, 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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.

***Hymn of Sending**

I've Got Peace Like a River
(Black New Century Hymnal No.478)
(Find Music at the end of this program)

***Benediction**

Postlude

Oh Happy Day
Peter Black

Keep up with the Douglas UCC community
and the work of our service groups here:

www.douglasucc.org

<https://www.youtube.com/douglasucc>

<https://www.facebook.com/douglasucc>

<https://www.instagram.com/douglasucc>

Joys Are Flowing like a River

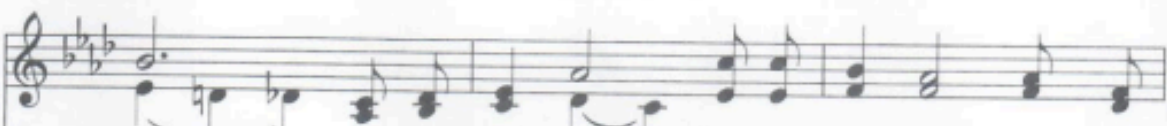
(Blessed Quietness)

Matt. 8:26; John 14:16; Ps. 46:4

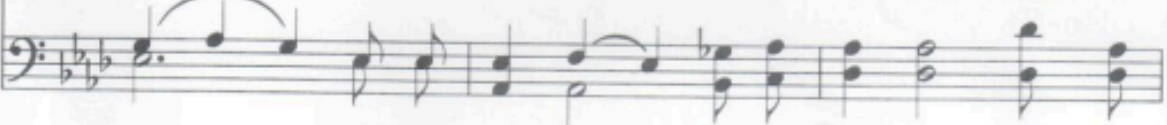
Manie Payne Ferguson (b. 1850); alt.



1 Joys are flow-ing like a riv - er, since the Com - fort - er has
 2 Bring-ing life and health and glad-ness all a - round, this heav-en-ly
 3 Like the rain that falls from heav-en, like the sun - light from the
 4 See, a fruit-ful field is grow-ing, bless-ed fruit of righ - teous -
 5 What a won - der - ful sal - va - tion, when we al - ways see Christ's



come; Christ a - bides with us for - ev - er, makes the
 Guest Ban-ished un - be - lief and sad - ness, changed our
 sky, So the Spir - it too is giv - en, com - ing
 ness; And the streams of life are flow - ing in the
 face, What a per - fect hab - i - ta - tion, what a



trust - ing heart a home.
 wea - ri - ness to rest.
 on us from on high. Bless-ed qui - et-ness, ho - ly
 lone - ly wil - der - ness.
 qui - et rest - ing place.



qui - et-ness, what as - sur - ance in my soul. On the

storm-y sea, Je-sus speaks to me, and the bil-lows cease to roll.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 8/7. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are placed between the two staves. The music ends with a double bar line.

Manie Payne Ferguson, born in Ireland, was married to a Wesleyan evangelist who established several missions on England's west coast. Ferguson's hymns were published in Echoes from Beulah.

Tune: BLESSED QUIETNESS 8.7.8.7. with refrain
W. S. Marshall
Arr. J. Jefferson Cleveland

I've Got Peace Like a River

*Isa. 66:12; 1 Pet. 1:8-9; 1 John 4:7-12**African-American spiritual*

1 I've got peace like a riv - er, I've got peace like a
 2 I've got joy like a foun-tain, I've got joy like a
 3 I've got love like an o - cean, I've got love like an
 4 I've got faith like an an - chor, I've got faith like an

1
 riv - er, I've got peace like a riv - er, in my
 foun-tain, I've got joy like a foun-tain, in my
 o - cean, I've got love like an o - cean, in my
 an - chor, I've got faith like an an - chor, in my

2
 soul. I've got riv - er in my soul.
 soul. I've got foun-tain in my soul.
 soul. I've got o - cean in my soul.
 soul. I've got an - chor in my soul.

Congregations or individuals may wish to add additional verses of their own making.

Most of the spirituals that drew from biblical stories and images used the Hebrew scriptures, rather than the New Testament, as their inspiration. The imagery of "peace like a river" derives from the book of Isaiah.

Tune: PEACE LIKE A RIVER 7.7.10.D.
African-American spiritual