

“Those who plant trees knowing that they will never sit in their shade, have at least started to understand the meaning of life.”

— *Rabindranath Tagore*



Munising Lighthouse, Dan Plasman

Prelude *A Forest's Lullaby* (Edin Kaso)

Lighting of the Candles and Ringing of the Bell

Welcome and Announcements

Centering Music *Blest Are They*

(Join songleader after verse)

Rejoice and be glad! Blessed are you, holy are you!
Rejoice and be glad! Yours is the kingdom of God.

Call to Worship *Litany for Meekness by Fran Pratt, adapted*

One: As we navigate difficult times

Many: And engage in difficult conversations

Let us remember the strength in meekness,
Meekness is not concerned with self-righteousness.

Meekness courageously embraces alert quietness.
Meekness lets pride fall away.

Meekness does not need to defend itself.
May our hearts change toward meekness

Toward the deep strength of lovingkindness
And the confidence of Love's regard.

***Opening Hymn** *Wake O My Soul/Handout*

Opening Prayer (*Life of Trees, arocha.org adapted*)

Living God, we gather in your presence to listen for a word of good news. May we join with all creation, honoring you according to their kind. We celebrate the beauty and importance of the trees that you have made. May the desire of our hearts be reflected in the actions of our lives, that we enable the trees of the field to clap their hands, and the trees of the forests to sing for joy. We pray this with deep humility for our complicity in the plight of the trees today. Amen.

Assurance of Grace and Peace

One: Peace be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Let us share peace with one another

***Passing the Peace** *Give Us Your Peace*

Give us your peace, O God; give us your peace, your peace.
Give us your peace, O God; give us your peace, your peace.
(last time) Give us your peace, your peace.

October 20, 2024
22nd Sunday after
Pentecost

We're so glad you've joined us today. Please feel free to ask any questions and participate or not in any parts of the worship service as you desire.

Service Volunteers

Usher: Mike VerMerris

Greeters: Betsy York & Demetrhea Terrien

Offertory & Communion Juice:

Greg Sherman, Stan

Greene, Laurie VanDenBeldt

Acolyte: Barb Witt

Reader: Greg Sherman

Sound Board: Dave Bohn

Video Camera: Lewis Corbin

Staff

Pastor **Rev. Jody Betten**

jody@douglasucc.org

Music Director **Peter Black**

Cantor **Jeff Spangler**

Administrative Asst. **Julie Ridl**

julie@douglasucc.org

Phone **269.857.2085**

Worship

Sundays at 10am

Quiet Contemplation

Thursdays at 5pm

Our Mission

To grow together spiritually as progressive Christians, welcoming all, and pursuing peace, justice, love, and healing for all creation.

We demonstrate this by:

- Being Open and Affirming
- Acting as a Creation Justice Church
- Respecting and understanding all belief and faith traditions
- Recognizing and celebrating our connectedness to all peoples
- Valuing questions rather than answers

Asterisk () means stand if you wish and are comfortable doing so.*

Congregational voice parts look like this.

And service music lyrics look like this.

DOUGLAS UCC



A Reading from the Gospel of Matthew 5:1-12

Good News Translation

Words of Integration & Guidance

I Go Among the Trees by Wendell Berry, white, male, American, poet

Ancient Readings from the Hebrew and Christian Scriptures

Homily

Blessed Are the Meek
Rev. Jody Betten

Moment of Quiet Reflection

Offering and Offertory *O God You Made the Trees*

Jeff Spangler
With Lauri Donaldson on flute
Lyrics by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette,

Joys and Concerns • Tibetan Prayer Bell

One: Thanks be to God! **Many: Alleluia!**
One: O God, **Many: Hear our prayer.**

***Doxology** *Song of Praise*

Creator of this great land we adore you.
Renewer of your people hear our praise.
Transformer of all life, you often take us by surprise,
Continue to be present in life-giving ways, Great God.

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 and praise.**

Song of Preparation *Holy is the Refugee*

(Join songleader after verse)
Singing holy, holy, holy God who made us in their likeness;
Holy ev'rybody, breath and soul,
Singing holy, holy, holy God who made us in their likeness;
holy ev'rybody, breath and soul, breath and soul,
ev'rybody, breath and soul, breath and soul, ev'rybody, breath and soul.

***Sharing of the Bread and Cup** *(gluten-free option, non-alcoholic juice in trays)*

The Bread of Life, the Gift of Heaven. **Amen.**
The Cup of Love, the Drink of Compassion. **Amen.**

Prayer for the Trees and The Lord's Prayer

Our Creator who is in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, and deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

***Closing Hymn** *Trees of the Field/Handout*
With Paul Kerney and Lauri Donaldson

Benediction

Postlude *I Shall Not Be Moved/Peter Black*



Scan this code to read and subscribe to our **Weekly E-Pistle** – all the news and events in our busy community!

Prayer List

Wayne Titus II (Wayne Titus III's Dad); Barbara Lindsay (Lewis Corbin's Bridge Partner); Rev. Marchiene Rienstra Family; Karen Clement (Friend of Debra Carr's); Ann and Jim Hopkins; Sally LaRowe (Linda Charvat's friend); Janice Campbell children & grandchildren (Pete Wehle's friends); James Higgins (Friend of Shane Anderson and Michael Tuleja), Joe Scarpone (Friend of Tom Fahlstrom); Fred Hamlin; Carol Brown and Dan McGavin; John Kerr; Dave and Shirley Lawson; Ruth Fahlstrom (daughter of Tom Fahlstrom); Nancy Grib (Friend of Pamela Chappell); Stuart Family; Mary Westenbroek; Jerry Elpers and family (Beth Howley's Dad); Edie Plantinga (Nancy's Mom); Max Matteson; Eric Cooley (Jo Cooley's brother)

Birthdays

October 21: Alton Overweg Jr.
October 22: Barbara Schipper
October 25: MaryJo Lemanski
October 26: Kenneth Hemminger

Anniversaries

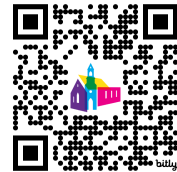
October 21: Lyn Anderson & Elaine Troehler
October 23: Max Brown & Doug Sipsma
October 24: Glynis & Kenneth Whitcomb

Weekly Financial Stewardship Report

for October 13, 2024

Attendance: **70** Viewers: **122**

Collection Plate/Mail: **\$4,781.00**
Online Giving: **\$2,319.91**
Total: **\$7,100.91**



Scan this code to support us with an online gift. (The code will take you to our website: douglasucc.org/giving.)

Or give from your smartphone by texting any US\$ amount to **844-931-2849**.

Thank you!

Your gifts sustain our church community and our mission of service.

www.DouglasUCC.org

Wake O My Soul

Opening Song

Pat Mayberry



1. Wake O my soul, to earth and sea and sky.
2. Wake O my soul, to jus - tice and to peace.
3. Wake O my soul, to laugh - ter and to song.

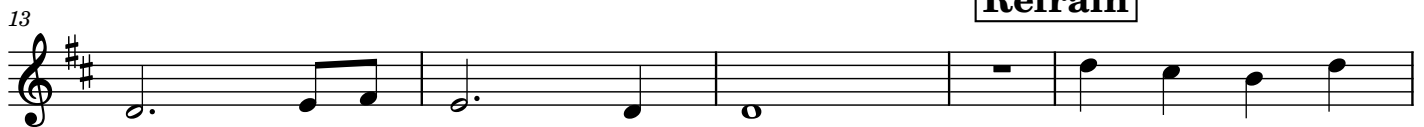


Wake to the for - ests, fields, the moun - tains high.
Wake to a world where hate and war shall cease.
Sing al - le - lu - ia ev - 'ry doubt be gone.



O - pen my eyes to ev - 'ry rock and tree, the
Where ev - 'ry truth and stor - y is re - vealed, the
Stir in our hearts a sa - cred har - mo - ny, a

Refrain



Ho - ly in all we see. You the Light of
wounds of the past can heal.
prayer of com - mun - i - ty.



all cre - a - tion, Bles - sed be Your name. Ev - 'ry



tree and flow'r, ev - 'ry soul Your Love pro - claim.

repeat refrain last time


Trees of the Field

Closing Song

Steffi Geiser Rubin

Stuart Dauermann

Sing 3x, gradually faster each time




Youshall go out with joy— and be led forth with peace.

5



The mount-ains and the hills will break forth be -

9



fore you. There'll be shouts of joy— and all the trees of the

13




field will clap, will clap their hands. And all the

18



trees of the field will clap their hands— the trees of the

23



field will clap their hands The trees of the field will

28



clap their hands— while you go forth in joy!