



DOUGLAS UCC
A JUST WORLD FOR ALL

Order of Service for Sunday, August 4, 2024

• Order of Service •

“Famine is not a shortage of food. It is a shortage of justice.”

-Herbert Mc Cabe, male, English, Dominican priest,
theologian, and philosopher

Lighting of Candles & Ringing the Bell

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

Welcome & Announcements

Centering Music *For All the Children (congregation joins Cantor
after verse)*

*O may our hearts and minds be opened,
fling the church doors open wide.
May there be room enough for everyone inside.
For in God, there is a welcome, in God we all belong.
May that welcome be our song.*

Call to Worship

Love incarnate has come that we might have life,
and have it, not stingily or wearily, but spaciously and full of
delight.

The Bread of Life has come that we might be filled;
our whole selves, our physical and spiritual needs,

every part of us is worthy of sacred fulfillment.
Where there is soulful living and holistic care,

all are nourished and feel refreshed,
and God's spirit is there.

***Opening Hymn** *Gather Us In/Green Gather Hymnal #744*

Opening Prayer

Gardening God, fill our cups with clean water, fill our plates with sustenance, fill our tables with community. Justice-Making Spirit, strike down those who manufacture famine. Crumble systems that pollute nourishment. Where there are food deserts, create abundance once more! Sustaining Love, we desire to thrive together. We desire to feed one another and to be fed. May we be nourished today and so leave this place to nourish the world. Amen.

Assurance of Grace & Peace

One: Peace be with you.

Many: **And also with you.**

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

***Passing the Peace** *No Matter*

*No matter who, no matter what,
no matter where you are in the journey
of life, you're welcome, welcome in this place.
No matter who, no matter what,
no matter where you are on the journey
of life, accepted, welcomed by God's grace.
(repeat after verse)*

Words of Integration & Guidance

Grace Lee Boggs, female, American writer, activist, feminist

“The will of too many Americans has been to pursue private happiness and take as little responsibility as possible for governing our country. As a result, we have left the job of governing to our elected representatives, even though we know that they serve corporate interests and therefore make decisions that threaten our biosphere and widen the gulf between the rich and poor both in our country and throughout the world. In other words, even though it is readily apparent that our lifestyle choices and the decisions of our representatives are increasing social injustice and endangering our planet, too many of us have wanted to continue going our merry and not-so-merry ways, periodically voting politicians in and out of office but leaving the responsibility for policy decisions to them. Our will has been to act like consumers, not like responsible citizens.”

• **We Listen and Respond to
the Still-Speaking God** •

A Reading from the Christian Scriptures: Ephesians 4:1-16

A Reading from the Gospel of John 6:1-14

Homily **Allies, Advocates, and Agitators**
Rev. Jody Betten

Moment of Reflection

Offering & Offertory *Offertory Meditation*
Christopher Roe

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 corazón te adora.
Mi corazón te sabe decir, santo eres Dios.
Holy, holy, holy, my heart, my heart adores you.
My heart is glad to say the words, You are holy God.*

Preparing the Elements *We Share a Hunger*

*We share a hunger: a hunger for justice in our world,
that all may find joy, all may find wholeness, all may find peace.
We share a hunger: a hunger to feel the light of Christ
shining through us, shining on all, bringing God's reign.*

***Sharing of the Bread & Cup**

These are the gifts of God for you today!
(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 of Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer

O Breathing Life, your Name shines everywhere! Release a space to plant your Presence here. Imagine your possibilities now. Embody your desire in every light and form. Grow through us this moment's bread and wisdom. Untie the knots of failure binding us, as we release the strands we hold of others' faults. Help us not forget our Source, yet free us from not being in the Present. From you arises every vision, power and song from gathering to gathering. Amen - may our future actions grow from here!

***Closing Hymn** *All That We Have/Green Gather Hymnal #601*

Benediction

Postlude *Meditation/Christopher Roe*

744 Gather Us In



1. Here in this place new light is stream - ing,
2. We are the young— our lives are a mys - t'ry,
3. Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter,
4. Not in the dark of build - ings con - fin - ing,



Now is the dark - ness van - ished a - way,
 We are the old— who yearn for your face,
 Here we will take the bread of new birth,
 Not in some heav - en, light - years a - way, But



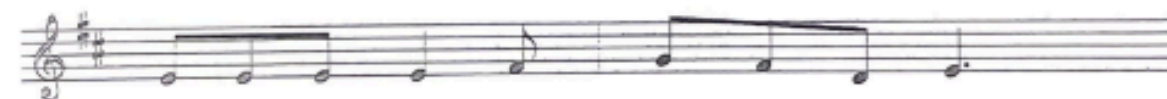
See in this space our fears and our dream - ings,
 We have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
 Here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,
 here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



Brought here to you in the light of this
 Called to be light to the whole hu - man
 Call us a - new to be salt for the
 Now is the King - dom, now is the



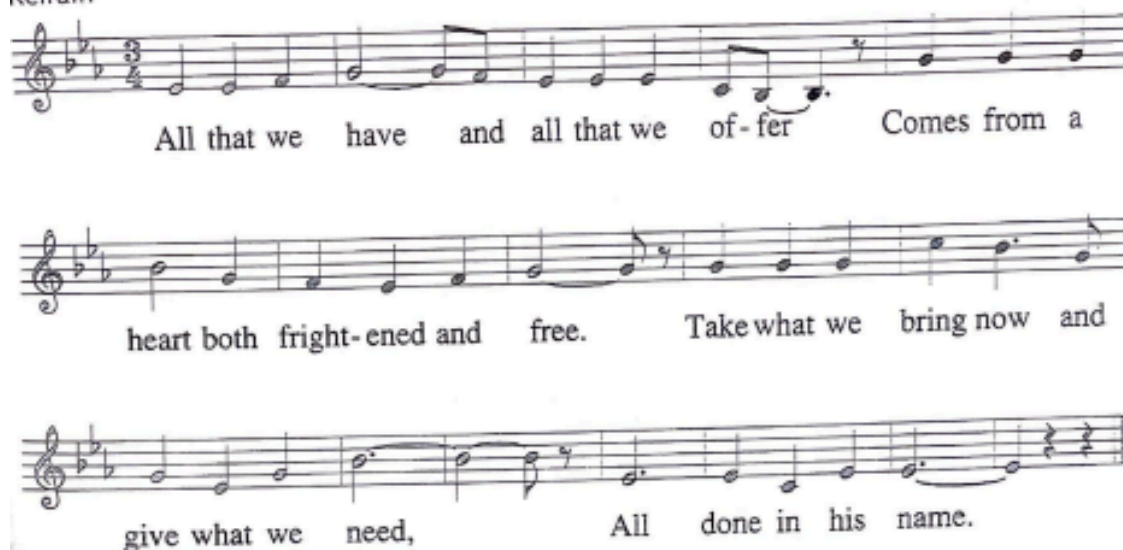
day. Gath - er us in— the lost and for - sak - en,
 race. Gath - er us in— the rich and the haugh - ty,
 earth. Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion,
 day. Gath - er us in and hold us for ev - er,



Gath - er us in— the blind and the lame;
 Gath - er us in— the proud and the strong;
 Give us to eat the bread that is you;
 Gath - er us in and make us your own;

All That We Have 601

Refrain




All that we have and all that we offer Comes from a
heart both fright-ened and free. Take what we bring now and
give what we need, All done in his name.


Verses




1. Some would re - ly on their pow - er,
2. Some - times the road may be lone - some,
3. Some - times when trou - bles are man - y,



Oth - ers put trust in their gold.
Of - ten we may lose our way;
Life can seem emp - ty, it's true,



Some have on - ly their Sav - ior,
Take cour - age and al - ways re - mem - ber
But look at the life of the Mas - ter,



Whose faith-ful-ness nev - er grows old.
Love is - n't just for a day.
Who lov - ing - ly suf - fered for you.