

Order of Service for Sunday, August 6, 2023

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Thank you for joining us today.

For Announcements, Birthdays, Anniversaries, and Prayer List, <u>visit this week's</u> <u>E-Pistle here</u>, where you can also subscribe to receive it by email, if you like.

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

Congressional Responses in Bold

Prelude Now Thank We All Our God

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) 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)

Call to Worship

Reader: Eric Lejeune

One: Our God is an awesome God who breathed into emptiness and created all that is. *All: With love and care, God shaped the world in all its diversity – with mountains and valleys, rivers and deserts, and people of all colors and sizes.*

One: Threading through it all are beautiful dreams of justice, compassion, liberation, and peace.

All: O God, creator of our past, our present, and our future, we thank you for the many blessings you bestow on us each moment.

One: Be with us now, O God. Draw near to us as we draw near to you.

All: Fill our hearts with compassion and a thirst for justice. Teach us to be co-creators with You of a world where all belong and share in the abundance you have given us. Amen.

*Opening Hymn, Let Us Break Bread Together

(Green Gather Hymnal No. 832)

(Find Music at the end of this program)

Unison Prayer

Loving God, Proverbs tells us "One who has a bountiful eye shall be blessed." We know we are blessed when we open our eyes to see your abundance everywhere. When we are experiencing thoughts of scarcity and lack, help us, O God, to see the abundant possibilities and opportunities that are now present in our lives. Help us to have "bountiful eyes" to see your free-flowing, ever-increasing, accessible and tangible abundance everywhere. This abundance is ours to use and enjoy, and we are grateful. 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 The Peace of Christ is Yours

Reach out your hands, accept the gift.
Reach out your hands, accept the gift.
Reach out your hands, embrace the gift,
the Peace of Christ is yours!
And it is free, free, free.
And it is free, free, free.
And it is free, free, free.
The Peace of Christ is Yours!

Words of Integration & Guidance

Rev. Eric Butterworth

The word affluence is an overworked word in our time, usually implying cars and houses and baubles of all kinds. Its literal meaning is "an abundant flow"—not things at all. When we are consciously centered in the universal flow, we experience inner direction and the unfoldment of creative activity. Things come too, but prosperity is not just having things. It is the consciousness that attracts these things. The word prosperity comes from the Latin root which literally translates "according to hope" or "to go forward hopefully." Thus it is not so much a condition in life as it is an attitude toward life. The truly prosperous person is one who is experiencing what Jesus referred to as the life more abundant. Prosperity is a way of living and thinking—not just money or things. Poverty is a way of living and thinking—not just a lack of money or things. Considered in the broadest sense, prosperity is "spiritual well-being." This involves the whole experience of healing life, satisfying love, abiding peace and harmony ... a whole creature in a whole universe. We have been erroneously conditioned to believe that our lives are completely shaped by what happens around us and to us. But life is lived from within out. It is not what happens "out there," but what we do or think about what happens. When we establish ourselves in the consciousness of God, the whole universe moves to flow into us with its abundance of life and substance. This is obviously what Jesus had in mind when he said, "But strive first for the kingdom of God, and all these things will be given to you as well."

Face to Face

The Words of Holy Scripture

One: A Reading of Scripture from Isaiah 55:1-5

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

Many: Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Lesson

One: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew 14:13-21

Many: Glory to you, O Christ.

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

Many: Praise to you, O Christ.

Homily

"Be the Miracle," Rev. Ginny Mikita

Offering & Offertory

Peter Black

Joys & Concerns/Tibetan Prayer Bell

One: Thanks be to God!

Many: Alleluia!

One: O God,

Many: Hear our prayer.

*Doxology Give Thanks to the Lord

Give thanks to the Lord for God is good and God's mercy will endure.

For God alone has done marv'lous things, give thanks unto the Lord.

God made the earth and heaven with a strong and mighty hand.

God has moved us to sing, proclaim the song!

Give thanks unto our 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 & praise

*Creation's Praise Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, holy, holy, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full, are full, of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the One who comes, who comes, in God's name. Hosanna in the highest.

(Please be seated)

Breaking of the Bread There is Room for All

There is room for all in the shadow of God's wing; there is room for all at the table of God's love.

And I exalt and sing "We do this in remembrance of you." There is room for all, there is room for all.

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.

(Green Gather Hymnal No. 828)

(Find Music at the end of this program)

Benediction

Postlude Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah (Bread of Heaven)

Peter Black

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

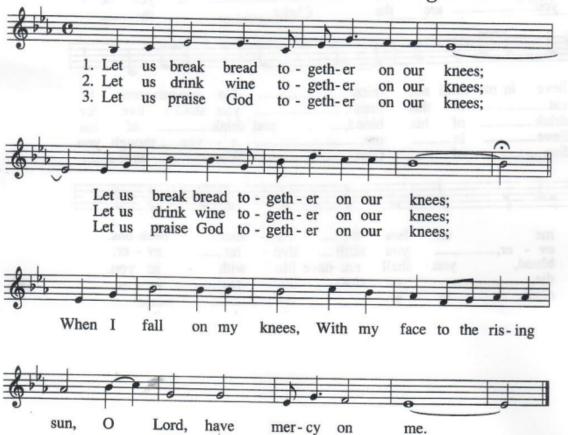
www.douglasucc.org

https://www.youtube.com/douglasucc

https://www.facebook.com/douglasucc

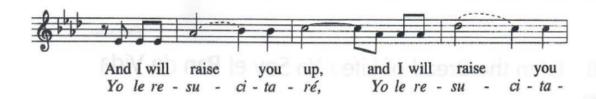
https://www.instagram.com/douglasucc

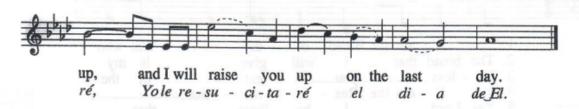
Let Us Break Bread Together 832



828 I Am the Bread of Life / Yo Soy el Pan de Vida







Text: John 6; Suzanne Toolan, SM, b.1927; translator unknown Tune: BREAD OF LIFE, Irregular with refrain; Suzanne Toolan, SM, b.1927; acc. by Diana Kodner, b.1957 む 1966, 1970, 1986, 1993, GIA Publications, Inc.