



DOUGLAS UCC
A JUST WORLD FOR ALL

Order of Service for Sunday, January 23, 2022

**Third Sunday after Epiphany
The Law of Divine Oneness**

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.**

Congressional Responses in Bold

Prelude *They'll Know We are Christians by Our Love, 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 *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

Psalm 27

Reader: Julie Ridl

One: There is one thing I ask of God. There is only one thing I desire.

Many: I want to dwell in God's house for all the days of my life.

One: For God's house is my shelter and my retreat.

Many: It is here that I find peace in the midst of turmoil.

One: God is my light and our salvation. Why should I be afraid?

Many: God protects me from danger. Why should I worry?

One: For God lifts me above the fray and sets me up on high.

Many: God lifts me safely out of reach of those things that threaten me.

One: So come, let us enter into God's presence with thanksgiving and praise,

Many: Let us enter into God's house with worship and with joy. Amen.

***Opening Hymn,**

No Longer Strangers

(Green Gather Hymnal No.734)

(Find Music at the end of this program)

Unison Prayer

Loving God, as the Psalmist prayed, "There is one thing I ask: To dwell in God's house forever," so we, too, ask to dwell forever in your abode of love. In your house, O God, love rules the day. We rejoice in the knowledge that you dwell within us and that we live, move, and have our being in you. Dwelling in your kingdom within us, we live in an atmosphere of love, peace, and hope. By our inner willingness, help us to more consciously abide in your house forever. 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** *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.***

Words of Integration & Guidance

Rev. John Shelby Spong from the book *Biblical Literalism*

I live in despair when I see the state of the Christian church today. The Bible, a text the Christian church claims to hold dear to, is frequently an embarrassment in the way it is used and understood. In our history, we have seen people of color enslaved, women reduced to second-class citizenship, and gay people rejected and blamed for natural disasters, all by "Bible-quoting" Christians. It is often so embarrassing to continue to identify oneself as Christian and to see how the Christian church's holy book is used in the service of prejudice, hatred and oppression. For anyone to call the Bible "The Word of God" or to treat the words of the Bible as if they were words spoken by the mouth of God, is to me not just irresponsible, it is also to be illiterate. The Bible reflects a worldview of an ancient, pre-modern time and holds as truth many things that no one believes today. Back in the 17th century, Galileo was condemned at a heresy trial for his challenge to the idea that the planet earth was the center of a three-tiered universe. A biblical text from the book of Joshua was used to seal Galileo's fate. Later, the works of Charles Darwin were attacked and ridiculed by Christians on the basis of the seven-day creation story in the Bible. Yet, today, I watch members of the church continuing to quote these Biblical texts as if they should still be authoritative. Yet, I love the Bible. I have been fed by this book. I have found the Bible and my study of it to be a deep resource to my life and faith, so I am driven to find a different way to read the Bible that allows me simultaneously to be both a person of faith and a person thankful to be living in the 21st century.

Good News, Good Ways

The Words of Holy Scripture

One: A Reading of Scripture from 1 Corinthians 12:12-31

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

Many: Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Lesson

One: The Holy Gospel according to Luke 4:14-21

Many: **Glory to you, O Christ.**

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

Many: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Homily "The Law of Divine Oneness," Rev. Salvatore Sapienza

Offering & Offertory

"One"

Pamela Chappell

Composer: Pamela Chappell

What If We Are One?

Joys & Concerns/Tibetan Prayer Bell

One: Thanks be to God!

Many: **Alleluia!**

One: O God,

Many: **Hear our prayer.**

***Doxology** *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that Love has done,

Creator, Christ and Spirit One.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit One.

***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 eres 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)

Sharing of the Bread & Cup

Receive the Bread of Life. **Amen.**

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

Our Daily Bread

***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.

Amen.

***Hymn of Sending** *We Are Many Parts*
(*Green Gather Hymnal No.733*)
(Find Music at the End of this Program)

***Benediction**

Postlude, *O For A Thousand Tongues to Sing*, Peter Black

Have a great week! 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>

No Longer Strangers 734

Verses



1. We once were lost; without
 2. We once were cut off; but now
 3. We who once were dead, now we



hope, with - out God; but now in Christ
 we are brought near, for Christ is our
 live in the light, we fol - low Christ



Je - sus, we have been found!
 peace, we were bro - ken, now whole! One
 Je - sus, a - bun - dant in grace! Who



Saved by the prom-ise of God!
 spir - it, one Bod - y of Christ!
 saved us, who raised us to life!

Refrain



No long - er stran-gers, no long-er lost and a - lone!



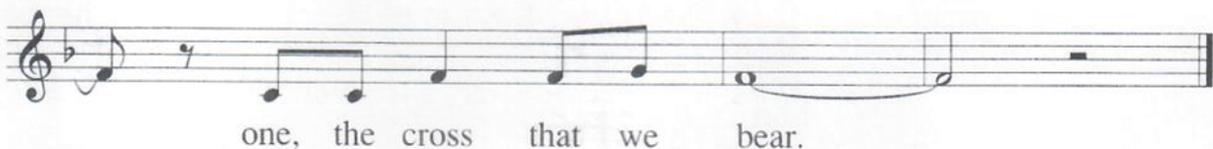
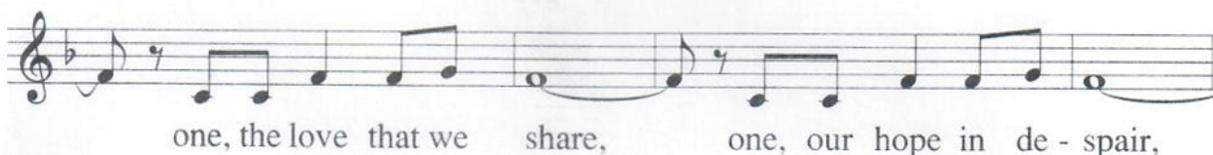
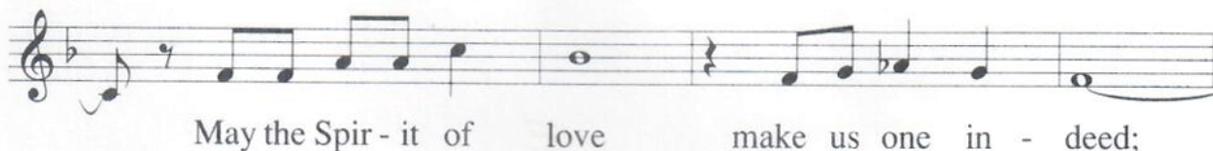
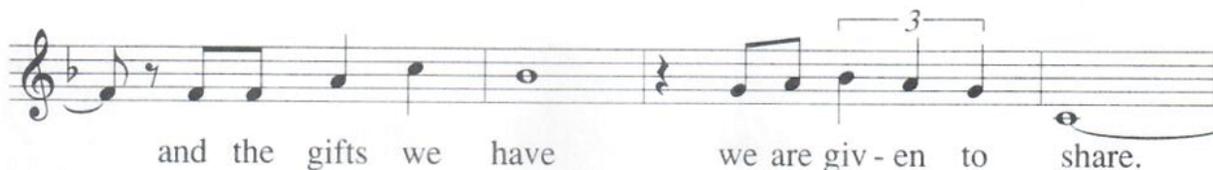
No long - er stran-gers, now we are saints! We are



one in the house of God!

733 We Are Many Parts

Refrain



Verses



- | | | |
|------------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| 1. God of all, | we look to you, | we would be your |
| 2. So my pain | is pain for you, | in your joy is |
| 3. All you seek - ers, | great and small, | seek the great - est |



ser - vants true,	let us be your love to all the world.
my joy, too;	all is brought to - geth - er in the Lord.
gift of all;	if you love, then you will know the Lord.