

Order of Service for Sunday, July 2, 2023

# **Fifth 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
 All are Welcome

 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: Carol Rice

One: We come to celebrate God's blessings to us. *Many: Surely God is in this place!* 

One: We come to open ourselves to God's guidance and love. *Many: Surely God is in this place!* 

One: We come to see more clearly God's presence in our lives. *Many: Surely God is in this place!* 

One: We come to seek God in this community of seekers. *Many: Surely God is in this place!* 

One: We come to pray, praise, and offer ourselves to God. *Many: Surely God is in this place! Let us worship together!* 

*Opening Hymn,	Enter, Rejoice, and Come In
	(Black New Century Hymnal No.73)
	(Find Music at the end of this program)

# **Unison Prayer**

Loving God, July 4<sup>th</sup> Weekend has become a symbol of freedom for all. Today, we make our own individual declarations of independence from anything that may be binding or limiting us. We know that many times the thing that binds us most is our own fear. But let us remember, O God, that you have not given us the spirit of fear, but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind. We can be free, for you, O God, have given us your own Spirit. Today, we celebrate our independence with gratitude. 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 UCC.org

"Jesus didn't turn people away, neither do we." When you're gutsy enough to make such a claim, it's not always easy to make good on it. Following Jesus' lead, the United Church of Christ strives to keep doors open to all. By God's grace-in the past and today-we do what needs to be done to be bold people of God's welcome. Jesus lived and breathed gracious hospitality. Even though there were powerful people who opposed Jesus' extravagant welcome, he still embraced those who were often shunned. In the reign of God that Jesus spoke of, he declared there is room for all — those who are hungry, thirsty, homeless, ill, poor, grieving, persecuted, and in prison. Jesus put faith and hospitality together: UCC churches express God's extravagant welcome in a variety of ways. Our churches are among those whose doors are open to God's children of different cultures, races, genders, ages, sexual orientations, abilities, economic situations, and theological traditions. It isn't always easy to be so open. Once one enters the door, it's not a matter of "sit back, be quiet, speak only as we do." You, your heart's questions and your gifts, are vital to the congregation. Both we and you grow together in faith and witness. Your distinct story of faith joins with centuries of stories that make up the Church, and specifically the United Church of Christ. In God's grace, you change; we change. We make a holy difference in each other's lives, and, together. in the world.

# **Holy Welcome**

## **The Words of Holy Scripture**

One: A Reading of Scripture from Jeremiah 28:5-9 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 10:40-42 **Many: Glory to you, O Christ.** One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church. **Many: Praise to you, O Christ.** 

Homily

"The Difficulties of Welcome" Rev. K'Lynne McKinley

**Offering & Offertory** 

*Jerusalem* **Bob Kruse** Composer: Steve Earl

## 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.

*Hymn of Sending	This is My Song
	(Black New Century Hymnal No.591)
	(Find Music at the end of this program)

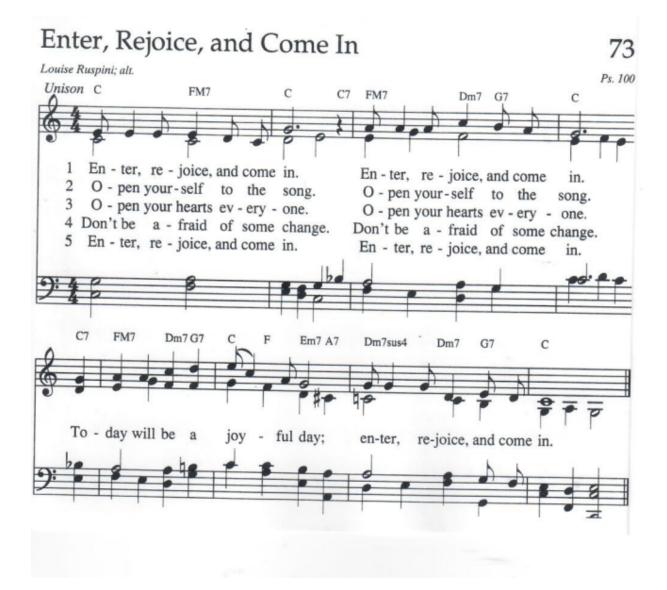
**Benediction** 

Postlude

*Hymn to Freedom* (Oscar Peterson) **Peter Black** 

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CITIZENSHIP

