



**DOUGLAS UCC**  
A JUST WORLD FOR ALL

**Order of Service for Sunday, July 30, 2023**

## **Ninth Sunday after Pentecost**

**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**     *Seek Ye First*

**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**

Psalm 119

Reader: Ginny Mikita

One: Your decrees are wonderful, O God.

***Many: The unfolding of your words gives light.***

One: Keep my steps steady according to your promise,

***Many: Never let iniquity have dominion over me.***

One: O God, turn to me and be gracious,

***Many: Make your face shine upon me.***

One: Your decrees are wonderful, O God.

***Many: The unfolding of your words gives light. Amen.***

## **\*Opening Hymn,**

*Bring Forth the Kingdom*

(Green Gather Hymnal No.658)

(Find Music at the end of this program)

## **Unison Prayer**

***Loving God, Jesus taught us that "Where thy treasure is, there will thy heart be also." For within our heart is the answer to our needs. Within our heart is the revelation of what our treasure really is and where it is to be found. When we speak of treasure, O God, help us to remember that our treasure is your limitless supply which meets each and every one of our needs. We need not search for it on the outside, for the kingdom of heaven is here on the inside. We are grateful for your treasure, O God. 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**

**by Eckhart Tolle**

A beggar had been sitting by the side of a road for over thirty years. One day a stranger walked by. "Spare some change?" mumbled the beggar, mechanically holding out his old baseball cap. "I have nothing to give you," said the stranger. Then he asked: "What's that you are sitting on?" "Nothing," replied the beggar. "Just an old box. I have been sitting on it for as long as I can remember." "Ever looked inside?" asked the stranger. "No," said the beggar. "What's the point? There's nothing in there." "Have a look inside," insisted the stranger. The beggar managed to pry open the lid. With astonishment, disbelief, and elation, he saw that the box was filled with gold.

The point of the story: Those who have not found their true wealth, which is the radiant joy of Being and the deep, unshakable peace that comes with it, are beggars, even if they have great material wealth. They are looking outside for scraps of pleasure or fulfillment, for validation, security, or love, while they have a treasure within that not only includes all those things but is infinitely greater than anything the world can offer.

# **The Kingdom of Heaven is Like...**

## **The Words of Holy Scripture**

One: A Reading of Scripture from 1 Kings 3:5-12

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 13: 31-33, 44-46

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

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

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

## **Homily**

*"The Treasure Principle,"* Rev. Salvatore Sapienza

## **Offering & Offertory**

*The Lord's Prayer (It's Yours)*

**Jeff Spangler, Peter Black, Lauri Donaldson**

Composers: Jacob Sooter, Matt Maher, Bryan Fowler

## **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**

*Morning Hymn*

(Green Gather Hymnal No.2)

(Find Music at the end of this program)

**Benediction**

**Postlude**

*Psalm XIX*

**Peter Black**

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

[www.douglasucc.org](http://www.douglasucc.org)

<https://www.youtube.com/douglasucc>

<https://www.facebook.com/douglasucc>

<https://www.instagram.com/douglasucc>

# Bring Forth the Kingdom 658

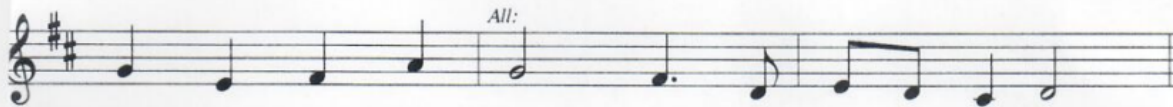
ses



1. You are salt for the earth, O peo - ple:
2. You are a light on the hill, O peo - ple:
3. You are a seed of the Word, O peo - ple:
4. We are a blest and a pil - grim peo - ple:



Salt	for the	King - dom	of God!	Share	the fla - vor	of
Light	for the	Cit - y	of God!	Shine	so ho - ly	and
Bring	forth	the King - dom	of God!	Seeds	of mer - cy	and
Bound	for the	King - dom	of God!	Love	our jour - ney	and

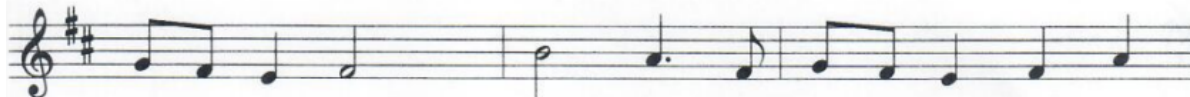


life,	O peo - ple:	Life	in the	King - dom	of God!
bright,	O peo - ple:	Shine	for the	King - dom	of God!
seeds	of jus - tice,	Grow	in the	King - dom	of God!
love	our home - land:	Love	is the	King - dom	of God!

Refrain



Bring forth the King - dom of mer - cy, Bring forth the



King - dom of peace; Bring forth the King - dom of jus - tice,



Bring forth the Cit - y of God!

## MORNING HYMN



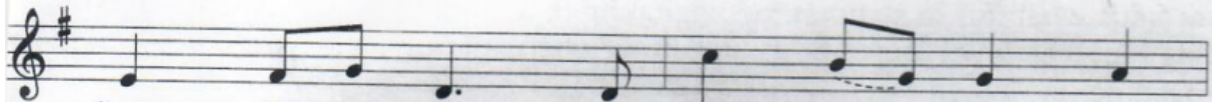
1. Sing your joy, pro - claim God's glo - ry!  
 2. All the earth is filled with re - joic - ing,  
 3. May we learn to be - come your King - dom.  
 4. Light our way, O God of the liv - ing,



Rise and sing, the morn - ing has come!  
 Light and life the won - der of God!  
 May we be your kind - ness and truth!  
 May we learn to see with new eyes!



Bless our God and praise all cre - a - tion;  
 Christ has tri - umphed! Ris - en for ev - er!  
 Love is our call - ing, gift of your pres - ence;  
 Je - sus the Lord, our pow - er and prom - ise;



Song of the earth, and light from heav - en:  
 Joy of our hearts, and hope of our dream - ing:  
 Chil - dren of God, and spir - it of Je - sus:  
 Light for the blind, and food for the hun - gry:



God is a - live! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 God is a - live! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 God is a - live! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 God is a - live! Al - le - lu - ia!