



**DOUGLAS UCC**  
A JUST WORLD FOR ALL

**Order of Service for Sunday, June 26, 2022**

## **Open & Affirming Sunday**

**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**     *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) *Surely the Presence*

*Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place,  
I can feel God's mighty power and God's grace.  
I can feel the brush of angel wings, I see glory on each face.  
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.*

## **Call to Worship**

**Justin Tanis: “Courage to Love”**

**Reader: John Willming**

One: For all who have taken the risk of loving another,

**Many: We thank you, O God of Courage.**

One: For all who have colored outside the lines that others have placed around them,

**Many: We rejoice with you, O God of Creativity.**

One: For all who have lived true to the inner voice within,

**Many: We celebrate with you, O God of Integrity.**

One: For all who proclaim their pride at who you created them to be,

**Many: We dance with you, O God of Joy.**

One: For the unique creation that is each one of us,

**Many: We honor you, O God of All. Amen.**

## **\*Opening Hymn,**

*Pour Your Freedom Over Me*

(Bulletin Insert)

(Find Music at the end of this program)

## **Unison Prayer**

**Religious InSTITUTE.org**

**O God, we are grateful for the gift of our lives and the gift of others in our lives. Each of us is created with dignity and worth. We are called to love each other and we honor the many ways that people live and love. We repent for the times when our faith traditions have named lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people unworthy. Love does not exclude. We are all worthy. We suffer when LGBTQ persons are oppressed, excluded and shamed by religious people who overlook the fundamental call to justice in our scriptures. True justice flourishes when we can live with authenticity and integrity. May we work to build a community where all people are celebrated as full and equal members, recognizing their many gifts. We celebrate diversity as a blessing that enriches us all. 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** *Spirit, Fill Me*

**Spirit come and fill me, fill me with your peace, fill me with your joy and your love.  
Spirit come and show me, show me how to care, show me how to share your  
light.**

**Help me give my hand to those in need, let my heart be open to receive.**

**When we share your love we can work together to heal this broken world.**

**Spirit come and fill us, fill us with your peace, fill us with your joy and your love.**

**Spirit come and show us, show us how to care, show us how to share your light.**

## **Words of Integration & Guidance**

**from the book *Gay Spirituality* by Toby Johnson**

Being gay gives a perspective on human experience that is different from that of the great majority of people. There must be something special and useful to humanity about this perspective, since a disproportionate number of important artists, poets, religious leaders, and spiritual guides in the past were what today we'd call gay. Happy, flourishing gay people transform the world around them. Because the social condemnation of homosexuality is almost always couched in religious terms, this perspective necessarily forces gay people to seek to understand what religion really is. Indeed, gay perspective is itself a religious phenomenon. Gay people have an acute sense of the phenomena of transformation that is at the heart of mystical spirituality. Since the 1950s and '60s, gay people have transformed themselves and their lives—and their place in society—by changing how they conceived their sexuality. Instead of thinking of it as illness or sinfulness, they chose to think of it in the way that's natural: as love and as attraction to beauty and joy. This shift in perspective has changed everything. Signified by the embrace and proclamation of the word "gay" as a badge of community pride, this shift in self-perception has transformed being gay from a terrible burden to a gift from God. No longer a sin, it is evidence of grace.

# Rainbow Covenant

## The Words of Holy Scripture

One: A Reading of Scripture from Genesis 9:12-16

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 5:1-16

Many: Glory to you, O Christ.

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

Many: Praise to you, O Christ.

**Homily** "God's Inclusive Love" **Rev. Salvatore Sapienza**

## Offering & Offertory

*"For All the Children"*

Nancy Plantinga & Friends

Composer: David Lohman

Refrain:

Oh, 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.

## 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 blessing 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** *Holy*

*Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of Hosts.*

*Heaven and earth are full, are full of your glory.*

*Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest!*

*Blessed is the One who comes,*

*who comes in the name of the Lord.*

*Hosanna! Hosanna! 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.  
Amen.**

**\*Hymn of Sending**      *Fearfully, Wonderfully Made*  
(Bulletin Insert)  
(Find Music at the end of this program)

## **Benediction**

**Postlude**                      *A Wonderful Day Like Today*  
**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>

# Pour Your Freedom Over Me

Opening Hymn

Cheryl Bragg

Pour your free - dom o - ver me.\_\_\_\_  
Pour your jus - tice o - ver me.\_\_\_\_  
Come let's stand in u - ni - ty.\_\_\_\_  
Let us walk in lib - er - ty.\_\_\_\_

<sup>3</sup>  
Pour your free - dom o - ver me.\_\_\_\_ Hand in  
Pour your jus - tice o - ver me.\_\_\_\_  
Come let's stand in u - ni - ty.\_\_\_\_  
Let us walk in lib - er - ty.\_\_\_\_

<sup>6</sup>  
hand let's make a chain,\_\_\_\_ and to - geth - er\_\_\_\_ pro - claim,\_\_\_\_

<sup>9</sup>  
\_\_\_\_ Land of the brave,\_\_\_\_ home of the free\_\_\_\_

<sup>11</sup>  
\_\_\_\_ Pour your free - dom o - ver me.\_\_\_\_ Land of the brave,\_\_\_\_  
Pour your jus - tice o - ver me.\_\_\_\_  
Come let's stand in u - ni - ty.\_\_\_\_  
Let us walk in lib - er - ty.\_\_\_\_

<sup>14</sup>  
\_\_\_\_ home of the free, Pour your free - dom o - ver me!\_\_\_\_  
Pour your jus - tice o - ver me!\_\_\_\_  
Come let's stand in u - ni - ty!\_\_\_\_  
Let us walk in lib - er - ty!\_\_\_\_

# Fearfully, Wonderfully Made

Hymn of Sending

Nathan Crabtree and Erik Whitehill



You were known, known be - fore birth.  
You be - long, You are re-deemed.  
When you walk, walk through the flame.



Wo - ven deep, deep in the earth.  
Loved by God, God is well pleased.  
God is there, cal - ling your name.



You were formed from star-dust. Sing Praise! You are  
Now em - brace what God has or - dained: You are  
God has said "Do not be a - fraid." You are



fear - ful - ly, won - der - f'ly made, Yes, you are  
fear - ful - ly, won - der - f'ly made, Yes, you are  
fear - ful - ly, won - der - f'ly made, Yes, you are



fear - ful - ly, won - der - f'ly made!  
fear - ful - ly, won - der - f'ly made!  
fear - ful - ly, won - der - f'ly made!