



**DOUGLAS UCC**  
A JUST WORLD FOR ALL

**Order of Service for Sunday, May 7, 2023**

## **Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**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**     *Simple Gifts*

**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)

*This is the Day*

***This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad.***

***This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad.***

## **Call to Worship**

Psalm 31

Reader: Julie Ridl

One: In you, O God, I seek refuge; do not let me ever be put to shame.

***Many: In your righteousness, O God, deliver me.***

One: Incline your ear to me; O God. Rescue me speedily.

***Many: Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me.***

One: You are indeed my rock and my fortress.

***Many: For your name's sake, lead me and guide me.***

One: Take me out of the net that is hidden for me.

***Many: For you, O God, are my refuge.***

One: Into your hand I commit my spirit; you have redeemed me, O God.

***Many: Let your face shine upon me and save me in your steadfast love.  
Amen.***

## **\*Opening Hymn,**

*One Is the Body*

(Green Gather Hymnal No. 846)

(Find Music at the end of this program)

## **Unison Prayer**

***Loving God, Jesus said you are within us. Therefore, we find strength and inner renewal through turning our thoughts to you. If we are troubled about some situation in our lives, let us think of your power, which transcends all human problems. Let us think of your peace, which "passes all understanding." As we lift our thoughts to you, O God, we shall know with all our being that you are indeed with us and within us. 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**

*Metta Prayer*

***May I be at peace. May my heart remain open.***

***May I awaken to the light of my own true nature.***

***May I be healed and be a source of healing for all beings.***

***May we be at peace. May our hearts remain open.***

***May we awaken to the light of our own true nature.***

***May we be healed and be a source of healing for all beings.***

## **Words of Integration & Guidance**

Father Richard Rohr

The divisions, dichotomies, and dualisms of the world can only be overcome by a unitive consciousness at every level: personal, relational, social, political, cultural, in interreligious dialogue, and spirituality in general. This is the unique and central job of healthy religion (re-ligio = re-ligament!). A transformed person unites all within himself or herself, so they can then do the same in the outer world. My favorite Christian mystic, Lady Julian of Norwich (1342-1416), used the Old English term “oneing” to describe what happens between God and the soul. As Julian put it, “By myself I am nothing at all, but in general, I am in the oneing of love. For it is in this oneing that the life of all people exists.” She also says, “The love of God creates in us such a oneing that when it is truly seen, no person can separate themselves from another person,” and “In the sight of God all humans are oned, and one person is all people and all people are one person.” This is the perennial tradition. Our job is not to discover it, but only to retrieve what has been discovered—and enjoyed—again and again, in the mystics and saints of all religions. As Jesus put it in his great final prayer: “I pray that all may be one.”

# Enduring Witness

## The Words of Holy Scripture

One: A Reading of Scripture from Acts 7:55-60

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

*All: Thanks be to God.*

## The Gospel Lesson

One: The Holy Gospel according to John 14:1-14

*All: Glory to you, O Christ.*

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

*All: Praise to you, O Christ.*

## Homily

“One-ing” Rev. Salvatore Sapienza

## Offering & Offertory

## Joys & Concerns/Tibetan Prayer Bell

One: Thanks be to God!

**Many:** *Alleluia!*

One: O God,

**Many:** *Hear our prayer.*

**\*Doxology**      *Alleluia, Give Thanks*

*Alleluia, alleluia give thanks to the risen Lord.*

*Alleluia, alleluia give praise to our God.*

*Spread the good news o'er all the earth, Jesus has died and is risen.*

*Alleluia, alleluia give thanks to the risen Lord.*

*Alleluia, alleluia give praise to 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 ruler almighty.*

*Heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Glory be to you, O God.*

*Blessed is the one who comes, who comes in the name of God.*

*Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.*

*(Please be seated)*

## **Breaking of the Bread** *A Communion Hymn*

*This we do in remembrance of You, this we do to honor you; Oh-h-h-h--*

*This we do in remembrance of You, because you have bid us to.*

*(Repeat after verse)*

## **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 (Aramaic Translation)**

*O Birther! Father/Mother of the Cosmos, focus your light within us - make it useful. Create your reign of unity now - through our fiery hearts and willing hands. Help us love beyond our ideals and sprout acts of compassion for all creatures. Animate the earth within us: we then feel the Wisdom underneath supporting all. Untangle the knots within so that we can mend our hearts' simple ties to each other. Don't let surface things delude us, but free us from what holds us back from our true purpose. Out of you, the astonishing fire, we return light and sound to the Cosmos. Amen.*

**\*Hymn of Sending**

*Guide My Feet*

(Green Gather Hymnal No.707)

(Find Music at the end of this program)

**Benediction**

**Postlude**

*I Go to the Rock*

**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>

## 846 One Is the Body

## Refrain



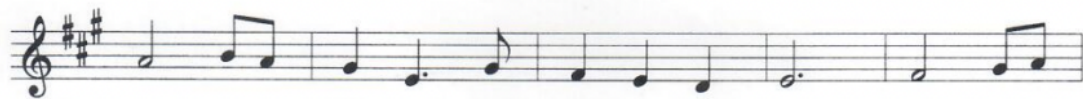
One is the bod-y, one is the bread, one are the



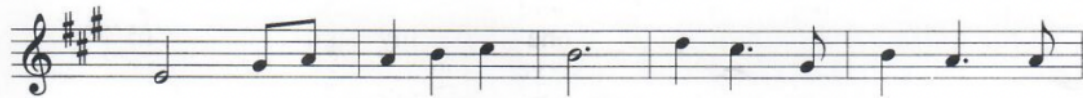
liv - ing, the un - born, the dead. One is the cup, one



blood in us flows, one is the breath of the star and the rose.



One is the Spir - it with Mak - er and Son, just as the



source and the riv - er are one; one are the stran-ger, my



foe and my friend. To this I will say, "A - men."

## Verses



1. Gath - er, dis - ci - ples, your mas - ter to meet.
2. Now split the tim - ber, now turn the stone;
3. I am the hun - gry, you are the poor;



Learn to for - give from the bread that you eat;  
look where you will, you are nev - er a - lone.  
God is the stran - ger who waits at the door.

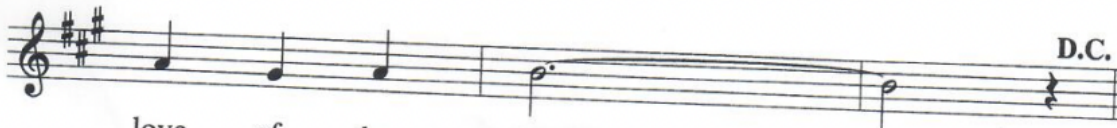
EUCHARIST



trea - sure the earth in the cup that is  
High as the heav - ens, deep in the  
While an - y suf - fers, no one is



poured.  
flood,  
free. Taste and see the good - ness, the  
What - ev - er all things are charged with the  
you do, then, you



love of the Lord.  
pres - ence of God.  
do it to me.

Text: Rory Cooney, b.1952  
Tune: Rory Cooney, b.1952  
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# Guide My Feet 707



1., 6. Guide my feet while I run this race,



Guide my feet while I run this race,



Guide my feet while I run this race, for I



don't want to run this race in vain!

2. Hold my hand... 3. Stand by me... 4. I'm your child... 5. Search my heart...