



**DOUGLAS UCC**  
A JUST WORLD FOR ALL

**Order of Service for Sunday, October 15, 2023**

## **Twentieth 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**     *Come Thou Font of Every Blessing*  
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)     *In This Place*

***In this place among these people, God is worshiped, God is praised.  
We have seen the signs and wonders,  
the lost are found here; the dead are raised.  
We are living the gospel story, lives are changed and mountains moved.  
Won't you come and work among us? You are welcome, you are loved.***

## **Call to Worship**

Reader: John Willming

One: We gather for worship today to celebrate our gifts.

***Many: We celebrate the love and support that we give to one another.***

One: We gather for worship today to celebrate our future.

***Many: We celebrate a future full of service, a future full of growth.***

One: We gather for worship today to celebrate our visions.

***Many: We celebrate the visions of those who came before us, the visions that brought us to where we are today, and the visions that we see for the future.***

One: We gather for worship today to celebrate our God.

***Many: We celebrate God's abundant supply. Let us worship God!***

## **\*Opening Hymn,**

*All That We Have*

(Green Gather Hymnal No.601)

(Find Music at the end of this program)

## **Unison Prayer**

***Loving God, the pain of human suffering is etched in the annals of the history of the Holy Land, and we issue a call to reject perpetuating history. Those who express animosity toward one group often harbor biases based on religion, race, and ethnicity. We must confront these prejudices head-on. Peace is not a distant dream. It is our shared aspiration. We need to show up as active participants in building a different world. As we navigate the larger geopolitical landscape, let us remember the power of interpersonal relationships to bridge divides and foster understanding. We must rise to the occasion to stand for justice, to fight for unity, to reject hate, and to strive for a future where empathy and solidarity prevail. 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**      *Send Your Spirit*

*Send your Spirit to set us free.*

*Send your Spirit to set us free.*

*Fill our hearts and minds,*

*loose the chains that bind.*

*Send your Spirit to set us free.*

**Words of Integration & Guidance**

**Rev. Nancy Piggott, UCC Minister**

I confess to occasional thoughts as I notice self-storage units along roadsides. How does one keep so much stuff that there is not enough room in the house for all of it? Then I catch myself, because my hidden self-storage unit is the unfinished part of our basement. Every time I cart another box of “treasures” into our basement, I sheepishly remind myself, “Our kids are going to hate me.” The glare of my own hypocrisy sends me into a dark corner to pray a prayer of Henri Nouwen’s: Dear God, please help me to discover that I am not what I own, but that I am what you want to give me. Amen.

Money is a topic most of us think should not be discussed in church, yet nearly two-thirds of Jesus’ parables pertain, in some way, to wealth or possessions. He was really concerned about the effect that has on our spiritual life. What Jesus is confronting is that our possessions are taking up so much space. Jesus is asking each of us is, “What matters to you, finally?” The kind of materialism Jesus calls us to promises not a bigger collection of stuff, but a deeper engagement with people, particularly people in need. Being rich from Jesus’ perspective means emptying ourselves of surplus to create more justice and love. There are so many places where our energy, our ideas, our love could make all the difference. God is calling us to act, to use our energy, our resources, our time and talent to help others while at the same time enriching our relationship with God and humanity. We can become collaborators with God by using our surplus to create a world of liberty and justice for all.

# Praiseworthy Living

## The Words of Holy Scripture

One: A Reading of Scripture from 2 Corinthians 9:8-15

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

*Many: Thanks be to God.*

## The Gospel Lesson

One: The Holy Gospel according to Mark 12:38-44

*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 Song** Peter Black

## Joys & Concerns/Tibetan Prayer Bell

One: Thanks be to God!

**Many: Alleluia!**

One: O God,

**Many: Hear our prayer.**

**\*Doxology** Give Thanks

*Give thanks, with a grateful heart,  
give thanks to the Holy One.*

*Give thanks, because God's given  
Jesus Christ, the son.*

*And now, let the weak say I am strong,  
let the poor say I am rich*

*Because of what the Lord has done,  
for us, give thanks.*

## **\*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** *You Are Holy*

*You are holy, you are whole.*

*You are always ever more  
than we ever understand.*

*You are always at hand.*

*Blessed are you coming near,*

*Blessed are you coming here  
to the church in wine and bread;  
raised from soil, raised from dead.*

*You are holy, You are wholeness,*

*You are present, let the cosmos praise you God!*

*Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah our God.*

*(Please be seated)*

## **Breaking of the Bread** *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.*

## **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**

*We Are Many Parts*

(Green Gather Hymnal No.733)

(Find Music at the end of this program)

**Benediction**

**Postlude**

*How Can I Keep from Singing?*

**Peter Black**

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

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

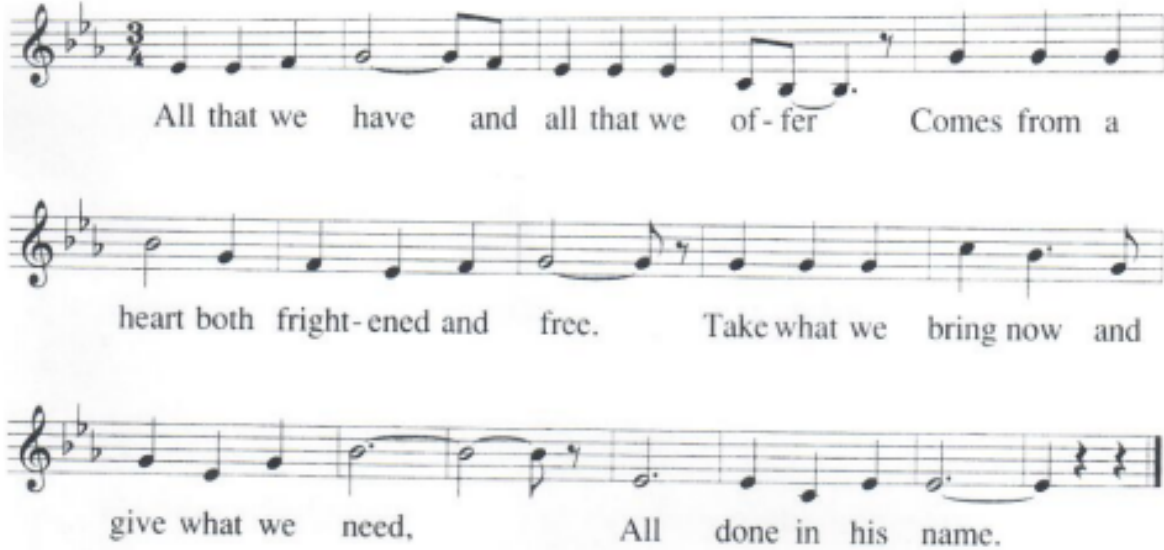
<https://www.youtube.com/douglasucc>

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## All That We Have 601

## Refrain



All that we have and all that we offer Comes from a  
heart both fright-ened and free. Take what we bring now and  
give what we need, All done in his name.

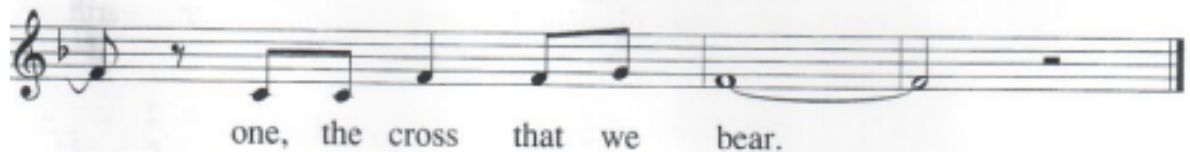
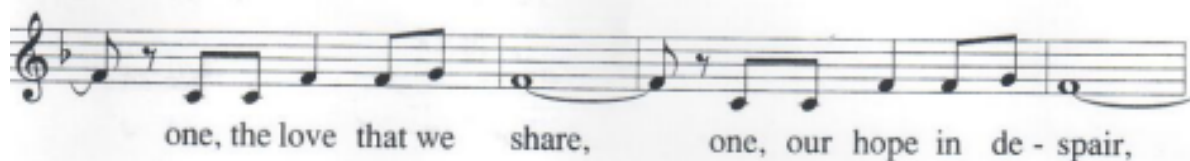
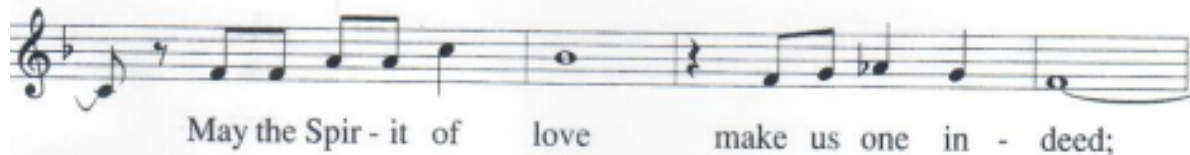
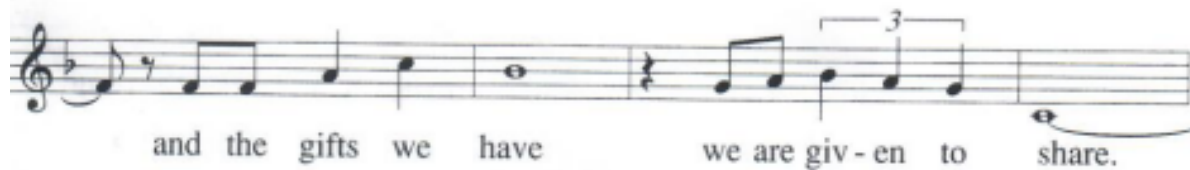
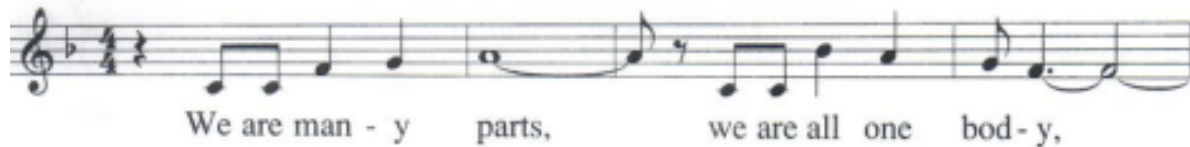
## Verses



1. Some would re - ly on their pow - er,  
2. Some - times the road may be lone - some,  
3. Some - times when trou - bles are man - y,  
Oth - ers put trust in their gold.  
Of - ten we may lose our way;  
Life can seem emp - ty, it's true,  
Take Some have on - ly their Sav - ior,  
cour - age and al - ways re - mem - ber  
But look at the life of the Mas - ter,  
Whose faith - ful - ness nev - er grows old.  
Love is - n't just for a day.  
Who lov - ing - ly suf - fered for you.

## 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.