



DOUGLAS UCC
A JUST WORLD FOR ALL

Order of Service for Sunday, October 22, 2023

Twenty-first 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.**

Congregational Responses in Bold

Prelude *Praise To God Who Reigns Above*
(Arr. by Jason Krug)
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

Psalm 99

Reader: Sue Scott

One: O sing to God a new song;

Many: Sing to God, all the earth.

One: Sing to the God, bless God's name;

Many: Tell of God's salvation from day to day.

One: Declare God's glory among the nations,

Many: God's marvelous works among all the peoples.

One: Honor and majesty are before God;

Many: Strength and beauty are in God's sanctuary.

One: Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice;

Many: For great is God, and greatly to be praised.

***Opening Hymn,**

Lead Us From Death to Life

(Black New Century Hymnal No.581)

(Find Music at the end of this program)

Unison Prayer

Loving God, giver of life and source of all, we know that it is from your hand that we have received all we have and are and will be. Gracious and loving God, we understand that you call us to be the stewards of your abundance, the caretakers of all you have entrusted to us. Help us always to use your gifts wisely and teach us to share them generously. May our faithful stewardship bear witness to the love of the Christ light in us. We pray this with grateful hearts. 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

Bishop John Shelby Spong

Jesus said, "Render to Caesar what is Caesar's, and render to God what is God's." His words suggested that the distinction was clear, that there were no gray areas. That is not the situation today in the United States, where religion has experienced a rebirth of zeal, and seeks to force a particular worldview on the people of this nation. I relish the freedom that Americans enjoy and the ideals for which this country stands. I think the taxes I pay to my government are still the best bargain in my budget. Yes, of course, I am aware that not all of our tax dollars are spent wisely, however, I still believe that the freedom this country provides is worth everything I pay in taxes. Taxes, I believe, are the payment that I am called upon to make for the privilege of enjoying life in this great nation. If that is what "Render to Caesar" means, then I am prepared to do so and joyfully. There is, however, much more to this admonition than just that. I also believe it is my duty as a Christian to bear a public witness against policies that "Caesar" adopts when these policies violate all that I consider holy. In the Judeo-Christian tradition that is traditionally the role of the prophet. Prophecy has nothing to do with predicting the future; it has everything to do with speaking uncomfortable truth inside the citadels of political power. We owe the "Caesars" in every generation a call to truth when truth is violated; a call to responsibility when incompetence is displayed and a call to morality when evil is rampant. The time has come for us to "Render to Caesar" what is appropriate, what is due to Caesar. The prophetic word of judgment must again be heard in the public arena. The prophets of our day must rise up and speak the 'Word of God' to our Caesar. In the Old Testament, when Nathan confronted King David, the King repented and changed his path. Perhaps if we, like Nathan, will render to Caesar that which is due Caesar, something similar will occur. I hope so. If it does, then we will recognize that we have also been rendering to God the things that are God's.

Praiseworthy Living

The Words of Holy Scripture

One: A Reading of Scripture from 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

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 22:15-22

Many: Glory to you, O Christ.

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

Many: Praise to you, O Christ.

Homily

“Church and State: Was Jesus Political?”

Rev. Salvatore Sapienza

Offering

& Offertory Song

It's No Secret (What God Can Do)

Max Brown and Peter Black

Composer: Stuart Hamblen

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**

I Will Trust in the Lord

(Black New Century Hymnal No.416)

(Find Music at the end of this program)

Benediction

Postlude

Peace in the Valley

Peter Black

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

www.douglasucc.org

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

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

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

Lead Us from Death to Life

2 John 1:3; Isa. 2:2-4

Refrain, Satish Kumar
Stanzas, Marty Haugen, 1985

Refrain C C7 F G C G/B Am

Lead us from death to life, from false-hood to truth, from de -

Dm7 G C Dm7 C7/E C7 Dm7

spair to hope, from fear to trust. Lead us from hate to

G C/E E7 Am Dm7 G

love, from war to peace; let peace fill our hearts, let

Em Am Dm7 C/E Dm/F C/G G7 C

peace fill our world, let peace fill our u - ni - verse.
to Stanzas

The musical score is written in 3/4 time. The refrain consists of two lines of music. The first line has a vocal melody with lyrics 'Lead us from death to life, from false-hood to truth, from de -' and a piano accompaniment. The second line continues the melody with lyrics 'spair to hope, from fear to trust. Lead us from hate to' and piano accompaniment. The third line has lyrics 'love, from war to peace; let peace fill our hearts, let' and piano accompaniment. The fourth line has lyrics 'peace fill our world, let peace fill our u - ni - verse.' and piano accompaniment. The score includes guitar chords and piano accompaniment for each line.

JUSTICE AND PEACE

Dm7
G
Em7
Am

1 Still all the an-gry cries, still all the an-gry guns, still now your
 2 So man-y lone-ly hearts, so man-y bro-ken lives, long-ing for
 3 Let jus-tice ev-er roll, let mer-cy fill the earth, let us be -

Dm7
G7
C
Am
Dm7

peo-ple die, earth's sons and daugh-ters. Let jus-tice roll, let
 love to break in - to their an - guish. Come, teach us love,
 gin to grow in - to your peo - ple. We can be love,

E7
Am
F
D7/F#
C/G
G7
C to Refrain

mer - cy pour down, come and teach us your way of com - pas-sion.
 come, teach us peace, come and teach us your way of com - pas-sion.
 we can bring peace, we can still be your way of com - pas-sion.

The text for the refrain of this hymn is known as the "World Peace Prayer." It is a paraphrase of a verse from the Upanishads, the most ancient scriptures of Hinduism. Since its introduction at a service in Westminster Abbey on Hiroshima Day, 1981, the prayer has been translated into numerous

Tune: WORLD PEACE PRAYER
 12.11.9.10. with refrain
 Marty Haugen, 1985

I Will Trust in the Lord

African-American traditional

1 I will trust in the Lord, I will trust in the
 2 I'm gon-na treat ev - ery-bod - y right, I'm gon-na treat ev - ery-bod - y

Lord, I will trust in the Lord, till I die.
 right, I'm gon-na treat ev - ery-bod - y right, till I die.

I will trust in the Lord, I will trust in the
 I'm gon-na treat ev - ery-bod - y right, I'm gon-na treat ev - ery-bod - y

Lord, I will trust in the Lord, till I die.
 right, I'm gon-na treat ev - ery-bod - y right, till I die.

One use of this traditional song has been in African-American

Tune: TRUST IN THE LORD Irr.