



DOUGLAS UCC
A JUST WORLD FOR ALL

Order of Service for Sunday, October 8, 2023

Nineteenth 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 *Here I Am, Lord*

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

Isaiah 43

Reader: Michael Valdez

One: Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea and a path in the mighty waters:

Many: “Do not remember the former things or consider the things of old.

One: For I am about to do a new thing.

Many: Now it springs forth. Do you not perceive it?

One: I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

Many: Do not fear for I am with you.

One: I have called you by name. You are mine.

Many: Behold, I am making all things new.”

***Opening Hymn,**

This Is a Day of New Beginnings

(Black New Century Hymnal No.417)

(Find Music at the end of this program)

Unison Prayer

Prayer for CROP Walkers

Loving God, we are grateful to our CROP Walk Team and their sponsors for helping to raise precious funds to help the most vulnerable in our local community and around the world. God of life, you have given us this amazing planet with enough food, water, and medicine for every man, woman, and child. But, we have yet to learn how to care and share, so that all can have these basic human necessities of life. We cannot stand idly by while our neighbors and fellow humans suffer. We thank you, O God, for our CROP Walkers, and we share this blessing upon them: May you be blessed today as you go on your way. May you be guided in peace. May faith and compassion find their way to every soul. May this be our blessing, too. 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

by Marney White, PhD

Change is all around us. Some change is fixed, like the shift of one season to another, while other change is evolutionary and progressive, tossing new circumstances our way as time goes on. It's natural to dislike change. It often requires us to come out from a zone of comfort and security. Ancient Greek philosopher, Heraclitus, observed that the natural world is in a constant state of movement. People age, change professions, and move environments. You can't step into the same river twice — even rocks are subject to changes by the elements over time. The only thing that will never change is the presence of change itself. While it may not be comfortable to shift out of the known and into the unknown, change isn't going away just because you're resistant to it. As Heraclitus once said, "The only constant in life is change." That said, you're a human being, not a light switch. You likely can't go from one mode to the other in an instant — and that's okay. When change comes, try to take a moment to process it and give yourself a little time to grieve. It's important to accept our unpleasant feelings and make room for them. Remember that changes are a normal part of life. Practice living life with an attitude of gratitude and embrace change as an opportunity for continuous renewal and growth.

Wisdom for the Way

The Words of Holy Scripture 1

One: A Reading of Scripture from Ecclesiastes 3:1-6

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

Many: Thanks be to God.

The Words of Holy Scripture 2

One: A Reading of Scripture from Jeremiah 1:4-10

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

Many: Thanks be to God.

Homily

“The Winds of Change” **Rev. Salvatore Sapienza**

Offering

& Offertory Song

I Hope You Dance

Jeff Spangler and Peter Black

Composers: Mark D. Sanders and Tia Sillers

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**

In the Midst of New Dimensions
(Black New Century Hymnal No.391)
(Find Music at the end of this program)

Benediction

Postlude

Remember Me (Scott Wiseman)
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>

This Is a Day of New Beginnings

2 Cor. 5:16-17

Brian Wren, 1978; rev. 1983

Unison

1 This is a day of new be - gin - nings, time to re -
 2 For by the life and death of Je - sus, God's might - y
 3 Then let us, with the Spir - it's dar - ing, step from the
 4 Christ is a - live, and goes be - fore us to show and
 * In faith we'll gath - er 'round the ta - ble to taste and

mem - ber and move on, time to be - lieve what love is
 Spir - it, now as then, can make for us a world of
 past and leave be - hind our dis - ap - point - ment, guilt, and
 share what love can do. This is a day of new be -
 share what love can do. This is a day of new be -

bring - ing, lay - ing to rest the pain that's gone.
 dif - ference, as faith and hope are born a - gain.
 griev - ing, seek - ing new paths, and sure to find.
 gin - nings— our God is mak - ing all things new.
 gin - nings— our God is mak - ing all things new.

*Alternate fourth stanza for Holy Communion

Brian Wren wrote this hymn in 1978 for a New Year's Day service in Oxford, England. The music is by the editor of two

Tune: BEGINNINGS 9.8.9.8.
 Colton P. Young, 1987

In the Midst of New Dimensions

391

*Julian Rush, 1985; alt.**Gen. 9:12-16; Exod. 13:21-22; Num. 14:14*

C C/B F C F Am7 Dm7 G7sus4 G7

1 In the midst of new di-men-sions, in the face of chang-ing ways,
 2 Through the flood of starv-ing peo-ple, war-ring fac-tions and de-spair,
 3 As we stand a world di-vid-ed by our own self- seek-ing schemes,
 4 We are man and we are wom-an, all per-sua-sions, old and young,
 5 Should the threats of dire pre-dic-tions cause us to with-draw in pain,

C C/B F C F Am7 Dm7 G C

Who will lead the pil-grim peo-ples wan-dering in their sep-arate ways?
 Who will lift the ol-ive branch-es? Who will light the flame of care?
 Grant that we, your glob-al vil-lage, might en-vi-sion wid-er dreams.
 Each a gift in your cre-a-tion, each a love song to be sung.
 May your blaz-ing phoe-nix spir-it res-ur-rect the church a-gain.

Refrain
 Am Em F C F C G7 C Dsus4 D7 G7sus4 G7 Am

God of rain-bow, fier-y pil-lar, lead-ing where the ea-gles soar, We your

Em F C F C/E F C/E F C/E Dm7 G7 C

peo-ple, ours the jour-ney now and ev-er, now and ev-er, now and ev-er - more.

Julian Rush, an ordained minister in the United Methodist

Tune: NEW DIMENSIONS 8.7.8.7. with refrain