

**United Church of Christ, First Congregational
Norwich, New York
June 20, 2021 – Music Sunday**

PRELUDE *Joyful Rhythm*
Handbells

By Kevin McChesney

WELCOME (Pastor John)

PRAYER OF THE DAY (Lilit Danielyan)
Holy God, you created the world and all that is in it.
The wind and the sea obey your Son.
You are the source of our strength
and our confidence is in you.
All praise be to you,
our stronghold and savior. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS (Linda Oehme)

CALL TO WORSHIP (Jason Handy)
How very good and pleasant it is
when sisters and brothers live together in unity!
It is like the precious oil on the head,
like the dew that falls on the mountains of Zion.
Together, let us worship God.

HYMN *When in Our Music God is Glorified* (#561)

Fred Pratt Green, 1972
Tune: ENGELBERG
by Charles V. Stanford, 1904

When in our music God is glorified,
and adoration leaves no room for pride,
It is as though the whole creation cried: Alleluia!

How often, making music, we have found
a new dimension in the world of sound,
As worship moved us to a more profound: Alleluia!

So has the church, in liturgy and song,
in faith and love, through centuries of song,
Borne witness to the truth in every tongue: Alleluia!

Let every instrument be tuned for praise!
Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise!
And may God give us faith to sing always: Alleluia!

CHILDREN'S TIME (Linda Oehme)
The Lord's Prayer

CONGREGATIONAL GREETING OF PEACE

ONE: May the peace of Christ be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE (Jason Handy)

2 Corinthians 6:1-13

As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. ²For he says,
"At an acceptable time I have listened to you,
and on a day of salvation I have helped you."

See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! ³We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, ⁷truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

¹¹We have spoken frankly to you Corinthians; our heart is wide open to you. ¹²There is no restriction in our affections, but only in yours. ¹³In return—I speak as to children—open wide your hearts also.

ANTHEM *Open The Eyes of My Heart*
(combined choirs of UCC and Broad St. UMC)

Words and music by Paul Baloche
Choral arrangement by Jack Schrader

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord.
Open the eyes of my heart.
I want to see you.
See you high and lifted up.
Shining in the light of Your glory.
Pour down your power and love
as we sing holy, holy, holy.

SCRIPTURE (John Kolb)

Mark 4:35-41

⁵On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, "Let us go across to the other side." ³⁶And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. ³⁷A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. ³⁸But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" ³⁹He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. ⁴⁰He said to them, "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?" ⁴¹And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"

SERMON (Pastor John)

INTERLUDE *The Staff of Faith*
Bob Oehme, organ

Swedish Folk Melody

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (Pastor John)

Let us bring our concerns for the world and for one another to God, praying,

Saving God, hear our prayer.
God of the sky and sea,
your world brims with glory.
You have set us in the midst of a garden
and trusted its tending to us.
We pray for our good Earth
and the wisdom to care for it well,
that generations to come may enjoy its fruits
and revel in its beauty.
Saving God, **hear our prayer.**

God of the earthquake and the storm,
your world is full of danger.
Keep watch over your people
and save them from despair;
strengthen and uphold them when trouble comes.
Saving God, **hear our prayer.**

God of power and might,
the rulers of this world do not always seek your wisdom.
Guide all nations in the ways of peace
and uphold the oppressed,
even as we work and wait for your coming realm.
Saving God, **hear our prayer.**

God of healing and comfort,
pain and loss are all around.
Soothe the frantic, embolden the fearful,
ease the suffering of the sick.
Give peace to all who grieve
and hope to those facing death.
Saving God, **hear our prayer.**

All-knowing, all-loving God,
we cannot always voice our hidden cares.
Hear our silent prayers, even those without words.
[A time of silence is kept.]
Saving God, **hear our prayer.**

With trust in your sustaining Spirit,
thanksgiving for your Son's interceding,
and confidence in your coming realm of justice,
peace, and love,
we offer these prayers in the name of Jesus Christ,
our Lord. **Amen.**

HONORING OUR MUSICIANS (Mary Williams)

BLESSING (Pastor John)
The creator of all that is
upholds your life;
Christ himself walks by your side;
the Spirit gives you breath
to speak God's grace
and sing God's praise.

POSTLUDE *Praise To The Lord The Almighty*
Handbells

Tune: LOBE DEN HERREN, 1665
Arranged by Cathy Moglebust

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