Our Mission:
To embody God's love for all by living an active faith in service to others.

We Gather to Affirm God’s Presence in Our Lives

May the God we sing to, pray to, and speak to throughout the day bless you and keep you safe.

CALL TO WORSHIP
Leader: The first time Jesus sat down to this meal, among those gathered there were one who would doubt him, one who would deny him, one who would betray him, and they would all leave him alone before that night was over—and he knew it.

Unison: We gather at your table with all your people.
Leader: Still, he sat down and ate with them. If he ate with them, surely he’s ready to eat with us—baptized or not, confessed or not, Christian or not, sure or not, believer or not, saint or sinner or a little of both.

Unison: We gather at your table with all your people.
Leader: All you have to be to eat at this table is hungry; God will do the rest. All things are ready...come.

Unison: We gather at your table with all your people.

HYMN
Give Me A Clean Heart  (sung twice)  NCH 188
LISTENING FOR THE WORD

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SCRIPTURE READING
1 Corinthians 1: 26-31

26 Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. 27 But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; 28 God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, 29 so that no one might boast in the presence of God. 30 He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, 31 in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

Matthew 23: 1-12

Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples, 2 “The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses’ seat; therefore, do whatever they teach you and follow it; but do not do as they do, for they do not practice what they teach. 4 They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on the shoulders of others; but they themselves are unwilling to lift a finger to move them. 5 They do all their deeds to be seen by others; for they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long. 6 They love to have the place of honor at banquets and the best seats in the synagogues, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, and to have people call them rabbi. 8 But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all students. 9 And call no one your father on earth, for you have one Father—the one in heaven. 10 Nor are you to be called instructors, for you have one instructor, the Messiah. 11 The greatest among you will be your servant. 12 All who exalt themselves will be humbled, and all who humble themselves will be exalted. NRSV

PRAYER

HYMN As We Gather at Your Table NCH 332

SERMON Staying at the Table
COMMUNION

THE INVITATION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Eternal God, we unite in this covenant of faith, recalling Christ’s suffering and death, rejoicing in Christ’s resurrection, and awaiting Christ’s return in victory.

We spread your table with these gifts of the earth and of our labor. We present to you our very lives, committed to your service on behalf of all people. We ask you to send your Holy Spirit on this bread and wine, on our gifts, and on us. Strengthen your universal church that it may be the champion of peace and justice in all the world. Restore the earth with your grace that is able to make all things new.

Be present with us as we share this meal, and throughout all our lives, that we may know you as the Holy One, who with Christ and the Holy Spirit, lives forever. Amen.

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Almighty God, we give you thanks for the gift of our Savior’s presence in the simplicity and splendor of this holy meal. Unite us with all who are fed by Christ’s body and blood that we may faithfully proclaim the good news of your love and that your universal church may be a rainbow of hope in an uncertain world; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer who taught us to pray:

Our Father, who art in heaven, 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

STATEMENT OF MISSION

As people of the United Church of Christ, affirming our Statement of Faith, we seek within the Church Universal to participate in God’s mission and to follow the way of the crucified and risen Christ.

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we are called and commit ourselves:
- To praise God, confess our sin, and joyfully accept God’s forgiveness;
- To proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ in our suffering world;
To embody God’s Love for all people;
To hear and give voice to creation’s cry for justice and peace;
To name and confront the powers of evil within and among us;
To repent our silence and complicity with the forces of chaos and death;
To preach and teach with the power of the living Word;
To join oppressed and troubled people in the struggle for liberation;
To work for justice, healing, and wholeness of life;
To embrace the unity of Christ’s church;
To discern and celebrate the present and coming reign of God.

HYMN
This Is My Song
NCH 591

BENEDICTION

PRAYER
May the strength of God guide us, the power of God preserve us, the
wisdom of God instruct us, the Spirit of God be within us, this day and
forevermore. Amen.

CHORAL BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

SERVING THE CONGREGATION TODAY
Ministers: All of Us
Pastor: Alan McNamara
Organist: Brian Kowalski
Singers: Ashley Kelly, Grace Klonoski, and Olivia Klonoski
Liturgist: Jan Graefen
Video: Colleen Bredesen
Audio:
Sexton: Tom Spielman

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Give Me a Clean Heart

Ps. 51:1-12

Margaret J. Douroix, 1970; alt.

Give me a clean heart so I may serve you.

God, fix my heart so that I may be used by you.

For I'm not worthy of all these blessings.

Give me a clean heart and I'll follow you.
As We Gather at Your Table

1 As we gather at your table, as we listen to your word,
2 Turn our worship into witness in the sacrament of life;
3 Gracious Spirit, help us summon other guests to share that feast

help us know, O God, your presence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
send us forth to love and serve you, bringing peace where there is strife.
where triumphant Love will welcome those who had been last and least.

Nourish us with sacred story till we claim it as our own;
Give us, Christ, your great compassion to forgive as you forgave;
There no more will envy bind us nor will pride our peace destroy.

teach us through this holy banquet how to make Love’s victory known.
may we still behold your image in the world you died to save.
as we join with saints and angels to repeat the sound-ing joy.
This Is My Song

Ps. 82.8
Lloyd Stone, 1934

1 This is my song, O God of all the nations, a song of peace for lands afar and mine. This is my home, the beams on clover-leaf and pine; But other lands have country where my heart is; here are my hopes, my sunlight, too, and clover, and skies are every dreams, my holy shrine; But other hearts in other lands are where as blue as mine. O hear my song, O God of all the beating with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine, nations, a song of peace for their land and for mine.