



Love, Truth, and Justice

Welcome to Worship

First Congregational
United Church of Christ

Menomonie, Wisconsin

Holy Communion

Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost
November 1, 2026

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude/Candle Lighting

"Lucis creator optime"
(J.B. Fasolo)

Oxana Khramova

Ringling of the Bell

***Call to Worship** (*Rise in body, mind, or spirit)

Leader: Thanks be to you, O God, that we have risen this day,

All: to the rising of this life itself.

Leader: Be the purpose of God between us and each purpose,

All: the hand of God between us and each hand.

Leader: The pain of Christ between us and each pain,

All: the love of Christ between us and each love.

Leader: O God, who brought us to the bright light of this new day

All: bring us to the guiding light of eternity.

***Opening Prayer (in unison)**

O God of life, eternity cannot hold you, nor can our little words catch the magnificence of your kindness. In the space of our small hearts and in silence you can come close and repair us. Grant us your forgiveness, for our careless thoughts, for our thoughtless deeds, for our empty speech and the words with which we wounded; for our false desires, for our hateful actions, for our wastefulness and for all we left untended. O loving Christ, scatter the sin from our souls; begin what we do, inform what we say, redeem who we are. Amen.

***Opening Hymn**

"Let All Things Now Living"

Hymnal #554

Readings

Leviticus 19:18; 1 John 4: 7, 11; Psalm 25:5; John 8:32; Micah 6:8; Luke 4:18-19;

Contemporary Reading, "Examen Your Politics" by Nish Weiseth

Kim Blomquist

Anthem

"Courage to Be Who We Are"
(Ruth Huber)

Chancel Choir

Sermon

"Love, Truth, and Justice"

Pastor René Mehlberg

Transitional Hymn

"Canto de Esperanza / Song of Hope"

SoF #22

Prayers of the People

Speaker	"Together for Tomorrow"	Lyn Collins
Offertory	"Down the Line" (Lydia Violet)	Singing Resistance

*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

Great Thanksgiving

Leader: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to God.

Leader: Let us give thanks to God.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Lord's Prayer

Our Creator, 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.

Breaking Bread and Pouring Wine

Leader: Please join me in the words of institution over the bread:

People: When he was among friends, gathered around a table, Jesus took bread and having blessed it, he broke the bread and gave it to his disciples saying, "Take and eat. This is my body which is given for you."

Servers will pass this gluten free bread among you. As you take a piece of bread, hold it until everyone is Served. We will eat the bread together, as a symbol of our unity, a world-wide Christian community.

Distribution Hymn	"Let Us Break Bread Together"	Hymnal #513
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Leader: Please join me in the words of institution over the wine:

People: In the same way, Jesus took wine and having given thanks for it, he poured it out and gave the cup to his disciples, saying, "This cup is the new relationship with God, made possible because of my life and my death. Take this-all of you-to remember me."

Servers will pass the juice and wine among you. The juice is dark red; the wine is white. Drink the cup as soon as you have been served in recognition of your individual relationship to God.

Distribution Hymn: "Let There Be Peace on Earth"

SoF #82

***Prayer of Gratitude** (in unison)

Gracious God, we thank you for these tangible gifts of bread and cup that feed our bodies and nourish our souls. May these blessings of grace be shared, not hoarded. Though we have been fed today at the table, may we still walk away hungry for justice, working for freedom and fullness for all of your creation. Amen.

***Closing Hymn** "Siyahamba / We are Marching"

attached

***Benediction**

***Sung Benediction** (unison)

**God be with you till we meet again;
Loving counsels guide, uphold you,
With a Shepherd's care enfold you:
God be with you till we meet again.**

Postlude "Let All Things Now Living"
(arr. M. Hayes)

Oxana Khramova

*The flowers today are in celebration of Than Win's 73rd birthday, today, November 1st,
from his wife, Doris and daughter, Emily.*

Credits

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This Week

Sunday, November 1, 11:30 Bible Study, R1

Wednesday, November 4: 9:30am Tour of Homes crafts, R1; **4pm** Kid's Club R2; **5:30pm** Chancel Choir, Sanctuary; **6:30pm** Bell Choir, Music Room; **7pm** Dance Practice

Thursday, November 5: 3:30pm Executive Committee, R1

Saturday, November 7, 9:30am-3:30pm Quilt Tour, FH and other locations

Link to the full church calendar: <https://www.menomonieucc.org/monthlycalendar>

Mission Statement of First Congregational United Church of Christ in Menomonie, WI

We are called together:

- To celebrate God's presence.
- To help each person to grow in their relationship with God;
- To create a welcoming and supportive community of all God's people, affirming the diversity of race, gender, age, sexual orientation, gender expression, and identity, social and economic status, and disability;
- To observe and share life's passages and our faith traditions;
- To reach out in love seeking justice and peace;
- And to tell the old story of Jesus and His love.

Land Acknowledgement

Here we congregate on Ojibwe, Dakota, Menominee, Potawatomi, and Ho Chunk land. Generations of Indigenous people occupied and provided careful stewardship of this land long before Europeans arrived on these shores. The traumatic dispossession of this land by European immigrants and the displacement of countless individuals produced collective suffering that has repercussions for our Indigenous neighbors today. The original inhabitants of this land—known to some Indigenous peoples as Turtle Island—took seriously the Creator's call to be stewards of air, land, water, and creatures. With gratitude, we acknowledge the lessons we continue to learn from our Indigenous neighbors as we seek to be good stewards and pray for guidance in learning how to make reparations.

ONA Covenant

We covenant as a congregation to welcome, celebrate, and include lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning people and their families into the full life of our church. We take this stance publicly and proudly, knowing that silence is inadequate to confront the violent theology that is widespread throughout the Christian church. We covenant to support lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning people and their families with our prayers, words, and actions.

Let All Things Now Living

ASH GROVE 6.6.11.6.6.11 D

Welsh folk melody

Katherine K. Davis, 1939; alt.

Harm. Gerald H. Knight (1908-1979)

Unison

1. Let all things now liv - ing A song of thanks - giv - ing
2. By law God en - forc - es. The stars in their cours - es,

To God our Cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise;
The sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine;

Who fash - ioned and made us, Pro - tect - ed and stayed us,
The hills and the moun - tains, The riv - ers and foun - tains,

By guid - ing us on to the end of our days.
The depths of the o - cean pro - claim God di - vine.

Harmony

God's ban - ners are o'er us, Pure light goes be - fore us,
We, too, should be voic - ing Our love and re - joic - ing

A pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night:
With glad ad - o - ra - tion, a song let us raise:

Unison

Till shad - ows have van - ished, All fear - ful - ness ban - ished,
Till all things now liv - ing U - nite in thanks - giv - ing,

As for - ward we trav - el from light in - to Light.
To God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise.

Canto de Esperanza/Song of Hope



May the God of hope go with us ev - ery day, fill - ing all our
¡Dios de la es - pe - ran - za, da - nos go - zo y paz! Al mun - do en



lives with love and joy and peace. May the God of jus - tice speed us
cri - sis, ha - bla tu ver - dad. Dios de la jus - ti - cia, mán - da -



on our way, bring - ing light and hope to ev - ery land and race.
nos tu luz, luz y es - pe - ran - za en la os - cu - ri - dad.



Pray - ing, let us work for peace; sing - ing, share our joy with all;
O - re - mos por la paz, can - te - mos de tu a - mor.



work - ing for a world that's new, faith - ful when we hear Christ's call.
Lu - che - mos por la paz, fie - les a ti, Se - ñor.

This Argentine folk melody sets Spanish and English words, both created by a PC(USA) missionary with much Latin American experience. The two versions complement each other: the Spanish text offering a prayer to God, and the English one providing inspiration for the singers.

513

Let Us Break Bread Together

LET US BREAK BREAD 10.10 with refrain

African-American spiritual

African-American spiritual

Arr. Melva Wilson Costen, 1988

1. Let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees; (on our knees;)
 2. Let us drink wine to - geth-er on our knees; (on our knees;)

Let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees. (on our knees.)
 Let us drink wine to - geth-er on our knees. (on our knees.)

Refrain

When I fall on my knees, With my face to the ris - ing sun,

O Lord, have mer-cy on me. (on me.)

Let There Be Peace on Earth



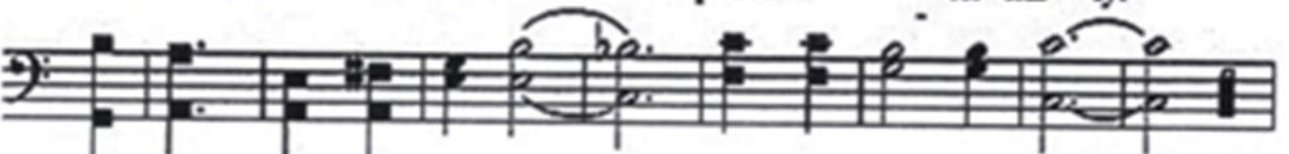
Let there be peace on earth, and let it be gin with me;
Let peace be gin with me; let this be the mo ment now.



let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.
With ev ery step I take, let this be My sol emn vow:



With God our cre - a - tor, chil dren all are we.
to take each mo ment and live each mo ment in peace e ter nal ly.



Let us walk with each oth er - in per - fect har - mo - ny.
Let there be peace on earth, and let it be gin with me.



Siyahamba/We are marching

Additional verses: dancing, singing, praying

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of five systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are written below the vocal line. The score includes various musical notations such as treble and bass clefs, time signatures, key signatures, and dynamic markings. There are also some performance instructions like 'God.' and 'Oo' written above the vocal line.

System 1: We are mar - ching in the light of God, we are mar-ching in the light of God

System 2: We are mar - ching in the light of God, we are mar-ching in the light of the God.

System 3: light of God. We are mar-ching mar-ching we are mar-ching mar-ching we are

System 4: mar-ching in the light of the light of God. We are mar-ching mar-ching we are

System 5: mar-ching mar-ching we are mar-ching in the light of God.