



Many people contribute to the worship service and you may wish to show your appreciation for them. To allow for reflection throughout the service, we ask that you hold applause to the end of the service unless the Spirit moves you otherwise. During the service, please use the Encourage One Another card found in holders on the back of the pew in front of you to show your appreciation for someone's contribution to the service and drop the card in the offering plate. Thank you!

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude/Candle Lighting “For the Beauty of the Earth” Oxana Khramova
(C. Kacher, arr. M. Hayes)

Ringling of the Bell

***Call & Prayer of Confession** (*Stand as you are able)

One: Siblings in Christ, let us confess our sins to God, for God knows our temptation to be cruel to one another, and yet imagines for us a life of mutual blessings.

All: **God of mercy and compassion, we confess we have not always treated our neighbors, friends, or even family members with dignity. We have used dehumanizing language or stereotypes. We have been critical when we should have been encouraging. We have told lies when we should have been honest with hard truths. We have excluded people when we should have widened the invitation. Forgive us for the ways that we have failed our neighbors, friends, and family with unkind words. Amen.**

***Assurance of Pardon**

One: Beloved in Christ, God knows how it feels to be frustrated with other people. Yet, God promises the Spirit to replenish our reserves of patience and love when it feels like we cannot spare one more kind thought. Receive these gifts of grace. Receive God's pardon for your sins, and be at peace.

***Opening Prayer** (in unison)

Compassionate God, you listen to the cries of all your children and are quick to respond with mercy. As Jesus' heart was opened by the pleading of a neighbor in need, open our hearts to the sighs and longings of our world. Teach us to be courageous in faith, speaking up for justice and persisting in hope that makes all things new. Amen.

Opening Hymn “Lord of All Hopefulness” attached

Readings

Karen Miller

Numbers 27:1–11, Matthew 15:21-28, Contemporary Reading, “Affirmation of Faith: Holy Confrontation *from Illustrated Ministry’s “The Work of Imagination” Lent series*

Special Music

“Liebesträume (Dream of Love)”
(F. Liszt)

Oxana Khramova

Sermon

“The Work of the Imagination:
Holy Confrontation”

Pastor René Mehlberg

Transitional Hymn

“Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying”
(sung twice)

SoF #87

Ministry Moment

“There Your Heart Will Be”

Lee Theorin, Property Deacon

Prayers of the People

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.

Offertory

“Nearer, My God, to Thee”
(L. Mason, arr. M. Hayes)

Oxana Khramova

*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.**

*Prayer of Dedication (in unison)

Generous God, we share our gifts like tiny seeds from a dandelion. Send out these gifts on the mighty wind of your Spirit, bringing growth, bearing fruit, and nourishing our neighbors. May each gift bloom with your holy imagination. Amen.

*Closing Hymn

“This Is My Song / Finlandia”

SoF #138

*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

“Come, Thou Almighty King”
(F. de Giardini, arr. M. Hayes)

Oxana Khramova

*The flowers today are in celebration of Judy Fry’s 83rd birthday, tomorrow, March 9th.
Happy Birthday Judy!*

Credits

- Liturgy pieces from “The Work of Imagination” Lent Series © 2026, an Illustrated Ministry, LLC. product, purchased and used with permission.

This Week

Sunday, March 8: 11:15am Worship Committee R12, **11:30am** Progressive Christians Book Discussion, R1

Tuesday, March 10, 4pm: Executive Committee, R1

Wednesday, March 11: 4pm Kid's Club; **5:30pm;** Chancel Choir; **6:30pm** Bell Choir, **7pm** Dance practice

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

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Lord of All Hopefulness

Jan Struther, 1901-1953

SLANE 10.11.11.12.
Traditional Irish Melody
Harm. by David Evans, 1874-1948

In unison

1 Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,
2 Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,
3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,
4 Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,

Whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy,
Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe,
Your hands swift to wel - come, your arms to em - brace,
Whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm,

Be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray, Your
Be there at our la - bors, and give us, we pray, Your
Be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray, Your
Be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray, Your

bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day. A - men.

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

Chords: Eb Eb7 Db/Ab Ab Eb

Lord, lis - ten to your chil - dren pray - ing, Lord, send your

The first system of music is in 4/4 time with a key signature of three flats (Bb, Eb, Ab). The melody is written in the treble clef and the bass line in the bass clef. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes, with some notes beamed together. The bass line provides a steady accompaniment with chords and moving lines.

Chords: F7 Bb7 Eb Eb7

Spir - it in this place; Lord, lis - ten to your chil - dren

The second system continues the melody and bass line. The melody features a mix of eighth and quarter notes, with some rests. The bass line continues with chords and moving lines, providing a solid harmonic foundation.

Chords: Db/Ab Ab Adim7 Eb/Bb Bb7 Ab/Eb Eb

pray - ing, send us love, send us power, send us grace.

The third system concludes the piece. The melody ends with a final note and a fermata. The bass line also concludes with a final chord and a fermata. The overall mood is reverent and prayerful.

This Is My Song

Ps. 82:8

Lloyd Stone, 1934

1 This is my song, O God of all the na - tions, a song of
2 My coun-try's skies are blu-er than the o - cean, and sun-light

peace for lands a - far and mine. This is my home, the
beams on clo - ver - leaf and pine; But oth - er lands have

coun - try where my heart is; here are my hopes, my
sun - light, too, and clo - ver, and skies are ev - ery -

dreams, my ho - ly shrine; But oth - er hearts in oth - er lands are
where as blue as mine. O hear my song, O God of all the

beat - ing with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.
na - tions, a song of peace for their land and for mine.