# FIRST CHURCH

# Living by Faith, Known by Love, A Voice of Hope



## **Farewell Sunday for Pastor Adrienne**

June 14, 10 a.m.

First Church in Windsor, UCC Livestream Worship

**Prelude** 

How Can I Keep from Singing?
Traditional American
Public Domain

Introit

Lift Every Voice and Sing written by James Weldon Johnson Public Domain

Lift every voice and sing, till earth and heaven ring, ring with the harmony of liberty; Let our rejoicing rise, high as the listening skies, let it resound loud as the rolling sea.

# Call to Worship

One: We are here because we have heard the call of Jesus in our lives.

Two: We are here to challenge and to support one another to rise up and follow.

One: We are here because we want to be God's people.

Two: We want to learn about what it means to be the people of God.

One: We come, seeking to be moved, changed, and made whole by the Spirit of the living God.

Two: Let us open our hearts to the moving of the Spirit and prepare to leave this place more

truly as disciples of Christ.

#### Hymn

We Are Called

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Come! Live in the light!
Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!
We are called to be light for the kingdom,
to live in the freedom of the the city of God!

We are called to act with justice, we are called to love tenderly, we are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God.

Come! Open your heart! Show your mercy to all those in fear! We are called to be hope for the hopeless, so hatred and blindness will be no more!

We are called to act with justice, we are called to love tenderly, we are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God.

Sing! Sing a new song!
Sing of that great day when all will be one!
God will reign, and we'll walk with each other,
as sisters and brothers, united in love!

We are called to act with justice, we are called to love tenderly, we are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God.

# **Prayer of Invocation**

God of Love, You are with us in every transition and change. As we enter into this new time with sadness, excitement, and even some anxiety, we recall your deep compassion, presence, and abounding love. We thank you for the gifts, talents and skills with which you have blessed us in Pastor Adrienne. We thank you for the experiences that have brought us to this moment. We thank you for the work of all our leaders who give breadth and depth to our own work. Be with us as we move forward, rejoicing with you and supporting one another. We ask this in your Holy Name. Amen.

## Lord's Prayer

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

#### **Morning Prayer**

Silent Prayer Prayers of the People

## **Prayer Response**

Just a Closer Walk with Thee
Anonymous
Public Domain

Just a closer walk with thee, grant it, Jesus, this my plea, daily walking close to thee: let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

**Scripture** 

Philippians 1: 3-11

3 I thank my God every time I remember you, 4 constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, 5 because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. 6 I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. 7 It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace[e] with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. 8 For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. 9 And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight 10 to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, 11 having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

**Sermon** Pastor Adrienne

"Thankful"

#### **Celebration Video Meditations**

"I Could Sing of Your Love Forever" words and music by Martin Smith c 1994 Curious? Music UK Used by permission. CCLI License #11115938

# Service of Farewell: Ending an Authorized Ministry

Pastor Nicole: On July 1, 2017, the First Church in Windsor called Rev. Adrienne Armes to

serve as Acting Associate Pastor and then Associate Pastor.

Pastor Adrienne: I thank First Church in Windsor, its members and friends for the love, kindness,

and support shown me these last three years. I ask forgiveness for the mistakes I have made. I am grateful for the ways my leadership has been accepted. As I

leave, I carry with me all that I have learned here.

People: We receive your thankfulness, offer forgiveness, and accept that you now

leave to minister elsewhere. We express our gratitude for your time among us. We ask forgiveness for our mistakes. Your influence on our faith and

faithfulness will not leave us at your departure.

Pastor Adrienne: I forgive you and accept your gratitude, trusting that our time together and our

parting are pleasing to God.

Pastor Nicole (Please stand if you are able.) Do you, the members and friends of First Church

in Windsor release Rev. Adrienne Armes from the duties of Associate Pastor?

People: We do, with the help of God.

Pastor Nicole: Do you offer your encouragement for her ministry as it unfolds in new ways?

People: We do, with the help of God.

Pastor Nicole Do you, Rev. Adrienne Armes, release this local church from turning to you and

depending on you?

*Pastor Adrienne:* I do, with the help of God.

Witness of the Hartford Association, United Church of Christ:

Rev. Isaac Lawson, Immanuel Congregational Church

## **Prayer**

God, whose everlasting love for all is trustworthy, help each of us trust the future which rests in your care. The time we were together in your name saw our laughter and tears, our hopes and disappointments. Guide us as we hold these cherished memories but move in new directions. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

#### Announcements

## Hymn

Blest Be the Tie that Binds
Traditional American
Public Domain

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love; the sharing of a common life is like to that above.

Before our God we come and pour our ardent prayers; our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comfort and our cares.

> We share each other's woes, each other's burdens bear, and often for each other flows a sympathetic tear.

When we are called to part it gives us inward pain, but we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet again.

#### **Benediction**

Pastor Adrienne & Family

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#### **Postlude**

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