



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



First Church in Windsor, UCC  
February 28, 10 a.m.

**The Second Sunday of Lent  
Seminary Sunday**

**Lent Theme: Through the Window: A Lenten Journey into Holy Mystery**

**Prelude**

**Welcome**

**Call to Worship**

One: God, you have searched us, and you have known us, more than we have known ourselves.

**Two: You know our greatest gifts, and you also know those places of shortcoming, of faults and hidden corners of shame that we work to keep hidden from others.**

One: Even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day, and your presence is found in all places, and in ourselves.

**Two: For it was you who formed me; you knitted me together in my mother's womb, and watch each step we take through our lives**

One: We praise you, for we are fearfully and wonderfully made.

**Two: Search us, O Lord, know our hearts. See if there is any wicked way in me and lead me in the way everlasting.**

**Opening Hymn**

*If You Say Go*

Words and music by Diane Thiel  
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**If you say, 'Go,' we will go.  
If you say, 'Wait,' we will wait.  
If you say, 'Step out on the water,'  
and they say it can't be done,  
we'll fix our eyes on you and we will come.**

**If you say, 'Go,' we will go.  
If you say, 'Wait,' we will wait.  
If you say, 'Step out on the water,'  
and they say it can't be done,  
we'll fix our eyes on you and we will come.**

**Your ways are higher than our ways,  
and the plans that you have made are good and true.  
If you call us to the fire, you will not withdraw your hand.  
We'll gaze into the flames and look for you.**

**If you say, 'Go,' we will go.  
If you say, 'Wait,' we will wait.  
If you say, 'Step out on the water,'  
and they say it can't be done,  
we'll fix our eyes on you and we will come.**

### **Prayer of Confession for Lent**

#### **Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song**

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**Sing:** *Lord Jesus, you shall be my song as I journey.  
I'll tell everybody about you wherever I go.  
You alone are our life and our peace and our love.  
Lord Jesus, you shall be my song as I journey.*

**Pastor:** We know nothing is able to separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ. Let us, therefore, be free to confess the wrong we have done.

**All:** **God of mercy, as we gather to celebrate your gift of love, we recall with sorrow the times when we forget you and are divided one from another. How often our thoughts, our words, our actions have betrayed the goodness you have shown us. Forgive us, merciful God. Mend what is broken. Heal the wounded relationships that separate us from you and one another; through Jesus Christ we pray.**

### **Prayer of our Savior**

**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**

**Pastor:** While it is true that we have sinned, it is a greater truth that we are forgiven through God's love in Jesus Christ. To all who humbly seek the mercy of God I say, in Jesus Christ your sin is forgiven.

**All:** **Thanks be to God. Let us offer one another a sign of peace** (either virtually through the live chat, text message, or at home).

**Sing:** *I fear in the dark and the doubt of my journey;  
but courage will come with the sound of your steps by my side.  
And with all of the family you saved by your love,  
we'll sing to your dawn at the end of our journey..*

## Mission Moment in Honor of Black History Month

*Lift Every Voice and Sing* by James Weldon Johnson

### Scripture

#### **Psalm 139: 1-6, 13-18**

Read by Nedelka Prescod from Andover Newton Theological Seminary

O LORD, you have searched me and known me.  
You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.  
You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways.  
Even before a word is on my tongue, O LORD, you know it completely.  
You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.  
Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it.

For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb.  
I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.  
Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.  
My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth.  
Your eyes beheld my unformed substance. In your book were written all the days that were formed for me, when none of them as yet existed.  
How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!  
I try to count them—they are more than the sand; I come to the end—I am still with you.

#### **1 Kgs. 19:11–13**

He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by."  
Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

### Seminary Moment

Rev. Rhonda Myers

"Encountering the Mystery of God: Still Small Voice"

### Sermon

Pastor Peter

### Hymn

*Hush! Hush! Somebody's Calling My Name*  
African American Spiritual  
Public domain

**Hush, hush, somebody's calling my name.  
Hush, hush, somebody's calling my name.  
Hush, hush, somebody's calling my name.  
O my God, O my God, what shall I do,  
what shall I do?**

Sounds like Jesus, somebody's calling my name.  
Sounds like Jesus, somebody's calling my name.  
Sounds like Jesus, somebody's calling my name.  
O my God, O my God, what shall I do,  
what shall I do?

I'm so glad, trouble won't last always.  
I'm so glad, trouble won't last always.  
I'm so glad, trouble won't last always.  
O my God, O my God, what shall I do,  
what shall I do?

## Prayers of the People

## Pastoral Prayer

## Prayer Response

### *Be Not Afraid*

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## Announcements

Andover Newton Seminary Video  
One Great Hour of Sharing Mission Moment

## Benediction

## Postlude

*Glory, Glory Hallelujah*  
African American Spiritual  
Arr. Jane Frogley

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The Prayer of Confession was adapted and used by permission by Colbert Cartwright and O.I. Cricket Harrison, eds. Chalice Worship. St. Louis: Chalice Press, 1997. The poem performed is originally written by James Weldon Johnson.

**We will receive the One Great Hour of Sharing offering on Sunday, March 14. To learn more about OGHS 2021, read below. You can read more about OGHS [here](#) and can make your gift [here](#). Thank you for your generosity!**



# Let love flow.

## **Joshua Mumbi used to spend much of his time collecting water.**

When it rained, he would collect water running in the streets. Often he would spend much of the day walking to a local water source and carrying back buckets. Sometimes he would even travel to the water source with his family the night before, spending the night there so that they could bring back water in the morning. His mother, Josephine, did not like to make the journey alone — it was not safe.

There was not much time to go to school. And when he did go to school, Joshua Mumbi was very tired during the day. It was hard to focus; it was hard to learn.

But thanks to your gifts through One Great Hour of Sharing, Joshua Mumbi and his family — and all of the other families in his village — have a safe, clean water source close to home. With a new solar-powered borehole well, they have water for cooking, water for drinking, water for bathing and keeping things clean and sanitary. Because you **let love flow**, water brought new life to a whole community. Now children like Joshua Mumbi and his siblings can go to school every day, and a whole world of opportunity is open to them. Now the whole community is empowered to provide for their needs, plan for their future, and pursue new opportunities for growth.

So that more communities can experience this new life, please give generously, and **let love flow**.

## **Water is life. Water is love. Let love flow.**

Access to clean fresh water is vital for all of humanity, but for women in particular, water access means the difference between life and death for them and their families. The United Nations International Observance of **World Water Day** (March 22) reflects on the importance of water in our daily lives and remembers those who lack access to adequate drinking water supplies.

For women and girls around the world, it can be a 12 hour walk to the nearest water source to collect water to maintain basic needs and crucial hygiene practices during the COVID-19 pandemic.

With your support, 100 families will benefit from the Water Well project, sponsored by the United Church of Christ in Mozambique (UCCM). When you give to One Great Hour of Sharing, you invest in the hopeful future of women and girls around the world and serve as co-workers with God to build **a just world for all**.