



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



First Church in Windsor, UCC

**Sunday, July 18
10 a.m.**

Prelude

Call to Worship

Leader: O God we so often feel uprooted!

People: Help us to deepen our connection to You and to one another.

Leader: Sometimes we feel dusty, dry, as though we could blow away spiritually.

People: Make us bold to seek our grounding in You, to be nourished by Your richness.

Leader: All too often we go through our days unaware of the holy ground on which we tread.

People: Wake us up, God, root us in You, so we might grow strong and bear fruit for You!

Hymn

Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil

Words and music by Handt Hanson

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Lord, let my heart be good soil, open to the seed of your word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is understood.

If my heart is hard, break the stone away.

If my heart is cold, warm it with the day.

If my heart gets lost, lead it to your way.

Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, open to the seed of your word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is understood.

If my way is dark, help me understand.

Should I start to faint, refresh me with your command.

If the thorns surround, lift me to higher ground.

Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, open to the seed of your word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is understood.

Prayer of Invocation

Holy One, God of the very soil beneath our feet, You who are the grounding of our hope and faith, we know that You are already here, for You precede us everywhere. Still, we dare to invite Your presence among us in yet deeper ways. Enable us to be rooted in You, nourished by You, that we might blossom in the midst of the world in ways that testify to Your glory and Your love. Amen.

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

Sacrament of Baptism

Today we welcome Declan Robert Bergquist into our church family through water baptism. Declan is the son of Catherine and Christopher Bergquist and the godson of Zachary Bergquist and Allycia Fish. Please join us in extending an extravagant FCW welcome to Declan and his family.

Questions of Commitment

Affirmation of Faith

Do you believe in God? **I believe in God.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ? **I believe in Jesus Christ.**

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit? **I believe in the Holy Spirit.**

Blessing of the Baptism Water

Act of Baptism

Congregational Assent

Leader: Do you, who witness and celebrate this sacrament, promise your love, support, and care to the one about to be baptized?

People: **We promise our love, support, and care.**

Children's Moment

Scripture Genesis 2:4-9

In the day that God made the earth and the heavens, when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up—for God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground; but a stream would rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the ground— then God formed a human being from the dust of the ground, and breathed into their nostrils the breath of life; and they became a living being. And God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there put the one whom God had formed. Out of the ground God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Davida Foy Crabtree

“Faith in a Seed: Holy Ground”

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Hymn

We Thank You, God

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**We thank you, God, for water, soil, and air,
Large gifts supporting everything that lives.
Forgive our spoiling and abuse of them.
Help us renew the face of the earth.**

**We thank you, God, for minerals and ores—
The basis of all building, wealth, and speed.
Forgive our reckless plundering and waste.
Help us renew the face of the earth.**

**We thank you, God, for making planet Earth,
A home for us and ages yet unborn.
Help us to share, consider, save, and store.
Come and renew the face of the earth.**

Prayers of the People

Pastoral Prayer

Prayer Response

Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil

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Announcements

Offering Plates are on the tables back of the church. We encourage you to give online [here](#).

Benediction

Postlude

Cantabile

By Alexandre Guilmont
