



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



First Church in Windsor, UCC

Ordinary Time
Sunday, July 25, 10 a.m.

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

Leader: God of mustard seeds and yeast, we come to you this day, seeking your Word and will for us.

People: **From a seed of faith in You, great things can emerge in this world.**

Leader: In just that tiny seed, you will make our faith grow strong, bolstering us with courage to do that which seems impossible.

People: **We can be those people who bring hope, peace, and justice to God's world.**

Leader: Come, let us praise the God of great and mighty wonders.

People: **Let our spirits soar in gratitude for the opportunities God gives us to serve. Amen!**

Hymn

You Are the Seed

Words and music by Cesareo Gabarain

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Music: traditional American

**You are the seed that will grow a new sprout;
you're a star that will shine through the day;
You are the yeast and a small grain of salt,
a beacon to glow in the night.**

**You are the dawn that will bring a new day;
you're the wheat that will bear golden grain;
You are a sting and a soft, gentle touch,
my witnesses where'er you go.**

**Go, my friends, go to the world, proclaiming love to all,
messengers of my forgiving peace, eternal love.
Be, my friends, a loyal witness, from the dead I arose;
"Lo, I'll be with you forever, till the end of the world."**

**You are the life that will nurture the plant;
you're the waves in a turbulent sea;
yesterday's yeast is beginning to rise,
a new loaf of bread it will yield.**

**There is no place for a city to hide,
nor a mountain can cover its might;
may your good deeds show a world in despair
a path that will lead all to God.**

**Go, my friends, go to the world, proclaiming love to all,
messengers of my forgiving peace, eternal love.
Be, my friends, a loyal witness, from the dead I arose;
“Lo, I'll be with you forever, till the end of the world.”**

Prayer of Invocation

Holy God, sometimes we can barely hold onto our faith in You. We may only have a seed of faith, God, barely visible in the creases of our hand. But we know it is enough. Inside that tiny seed of faith resides all the power of God. Move in us, show us possibilities we can only dream of without you. Let your growth be from our faith, that small seeds can bring mighty peace to this world. 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

Children's Moment

Scripture

Matthew 13: 31-32

Jesus put another parable before them, saying, “The kingdom of heaven is like a grain of mustard seed that a person took and sowed in their field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is larger than all the garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.

Sermon

Pastor Peter

“Faith in a Seed: Starting Small”

Hymn

We Plant a Grain of Mustard Seed

Words by Mary Bryan Matney

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Music: traditional American

**We plant a grain of mustard seed, and in our faith we find
The proof of God is love, indeed, which blossoms from its kind,
Which blossoms from its kind.**

**Our actions, more than words, define how love's example feeds
A greater love, for love divine bursts for the from smallest seeds,
Bursts forth from smallest seeds.**

**When stooped to lend a helping hand, we find a touch that heals,
For love invested will expand to bear the fruit love yields,
To bear the fruit love yields.**

**Our lives will be fulfilled and blessed if through the seeds we've sown
And by the love that we profess the love of Christ is known,
The love of Christ is known.**

Prayers of the People

Pastoral Prayer

Prayer Response

Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil

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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 is grown and peace is understood.**

Announcements

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

Benediction

Postlude

Bransle de Bourgogne

By Francis Poulenc

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