



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



First Church in Windsor, UCC

**Illuminated Faith
World Communion Sunday
Sunday, October 3, 10 a.m.**

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

Leader: We gather today as the people of God, as a community of Christ's followers

People: We gather to share Word and sacrament, to discern the ways of faithful service.

Leader: Where in the world shall we serve our God?

People: At home and school and business place – in this community and throughout every land.

Leader: How in the world shall we serve our God?

People: By working toward justice where there is oppression, by offering comfort where there is pain, by sharing love where there is hatred.

Leader: Why in the world shall we serve our God?

People: Because the Spirit beckons us, because Jesus calls us to enact our faith. Let us now worship the one who calls us!

Hymn

All Are Welcome

Words by Laurie Zelman and Mark A. Miller

Music by Mark A. Miller

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**Let's walk together for a while and ask where we begin
to build a world where love can grow and hope can enter in,
to be the hands of healing and to plant the seed of peace.**

**Singing welcome, welcome to this place.
You're invited to come and know God's grace.
All are welcome the love of God to share
'cause all of us are welcome here, all are welcome in this place.**

**Let's talk together of a time when we will share a feast,
where pride and power kneel to serve the lonely and the least,
and joy will set the table as we join our hands to pray.**

**Singing welcome, welcome to this place.
You're invited to come and know God's grace.
All are welcome the love of God to share
'cause all of us are welcome here, all are welcome in this place.**

Prayer of Invocation

God of the whole world, we admit we are a torn people. We set ourselves apart based on differences, distinctions, judgments, and opinions. We tear ourselves from within as we strive for independence and unique individuality. We do not recognize our common longings for peace, for healing, and deep meaning in life. In the unity of the Spirit, we draw together to sing and pray as your own children. Refresh us now as we open who we are, to who we may yet become. 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

Scripture

Isaiah 43:1-9

But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. 2When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. 3For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. 4Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. 5Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; 6I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth— 7everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made." 8Bring forth the people who are blind, yet have eyes, who are deaf, yet have ears! 9Let all the nations gather together, and let the peoples assemble. Who among them declared this, and foretold to us the former things? Let them bring their witnesses to justify them, and let them hear and say, "It is true."

Sermon

Pastor Nicole

"Gathering God's People"

Hymn

For Everyone Born

Words by Shirley Erena Murray
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Music by Brian Mann

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**For everyone born, a place at the table,
for everyone born, clean water and bread.
A shelter, a space, a safe place for growing.
For everyone born, a star overhead.**

**And God will delight when we are creators of justice,
and joy, compassion and peace.
Yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice,
justice and joy.**

**For woman and man, a place at the table,
revisiting roles, deciding the share.
With wisdom and grace, dividing the power.
For woman and man, a system that's fair.**

**And God will delight when we are creators of justice,
and joy, compassion and peace.
Yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice,
justice and joy.**

Illuminated Faith

Sue Williams

“I Believe in the Sanctity of the Earth”

Prayers of the People

Pastoral Prayer

World Communion Mission Moment from our Global Ministries partner in Durban, South Africa

If you wish, you can make your Neighbors in Need offering online [here](#).

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation
Words of Institution
Sharing of the Elements

Communion Response

We Are Coming, Lord, to the Table
Traditional song from Sierra Leone
Public domain

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Loving God, make us good neighbors to all the suffering and wounded in our world. Even more, help us to see them as neighbors to us, bearers hope and salvation. Give us the courage to address the sources and structures of injustice, even if these are very close to home. Help us to become prophets and workers in the process of transformation of this world, until it is a world that becomes what you long for it to be—an image of you. And may we all say together, Amen.

Announcements

If you wish, you may give online [here](#).
Alternatively, checks may be mailed to the church at 107 Palisado Ave, Windsor, CT 06095

Benediction

Postlude

Allemande in Eb

By J.S. Bach
Public domain

Today's **Call to Worship** is by Ana and Tod Gobledale, Global Ministries Associates serving in the United Kingdom. The Prayer of Invocation was adapted from *Touch Holiness* by Ruth Duck, ed. New York: Pilgrim Press, 1990. The Prayer of Thanksgiving was adapted from *Gifts of Many Cultures* by Maren Tirabassi and K.W. Eddy. Cleveland: Pilgrim Press, 1995