



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



First Church in Windsor, UCC

**Native American Sunday/Illuminated Faith
October 10 at 10 a.m.**

Prelude

Welcome

Litany for Native American Sunday

One: Creator, we come together today as diverse, united peoples to give thanks to you, Maker of Heaven and Earth.

All: We come to listen, to learn, to sing and pray, to consider our place in the order of things you have created and are creating.

One: It is right and good to give thanks for the land on which we stand, for this is wisdom we learn from Indigenous peoples of this land—that we are one with the earth, its waters, air, animals, and plants.

All: Such wisdom, our interdependence with all life, is something too easy to forget in our busy lives! It is a gift and a challenge to us to remember.

One: And so, we take time to acknowledge the lands on which we now live.

All: Many of us have come from other places, arriving from distant shores, our families arriving years ago or some of us more recently. When settlers came, they were met by others who were already here, already knew these lands, already lived rich and full lives based on ancient and proud cultures.

One: Let us take time to name the peoples of this land now. We remember the historic tribes of this area: Podunks, the Tunxis, and the Western Nehantics. We also acknowledge the five indigenous tribes recognized by statute in Connecticut: The Schaghticoke, Paucatuck Eastern Pequot, Mashantucket Pequot, Mohegan, and Golden Hill Paugussett.

All: O God, as we acknowledge the peoples who have lived on and stewarded these lands since time immemorial, and their continued claims to the land, help us to become neighbours that we might live together in better ways. For we are all kin in Christ, all relatives, all related by kinship, with each other and this earth, its waters, air, animals, and plants.

Hymn

Many and Great
Native American melody (Dakota)
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**Many and great, O God, are your works,
Maker of earth and sky;
Your hands have set the heavens with stars,
your fingers spread the mountains and plains.
Lo, at your word the waters were formed;
deep seas obey your voice.**

**Grant unto us communion with you,
O star abiding One;
Come unto us and dwell with us:
with you are found the gifts of life.
Bless us with life that has no end,
eternal life with you.**

**Many and great, O God, are your works,
Maker of earth and sky;
Your hands have set the heavens with stars,
your fingers spread the mountains and plains.
Lo, at your word the waters were formed;
deep seas obey your voice.**

Prayer of Invocation

O God, for the witness of strength, caring, and love of Indigenous peoples, and for the struggle for what is just and right, open our hearts this day. Encourage us to listen more, speak less, participate in the movements for change that will bring us together in good and respectful ways. Encourage us to make friends, get to know someone's story, and share our stories too, without fear, for in Christ we know we are all kin, relatives, with you and with each other and with all living and non-living things. 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

Children aged 3 to 11 may leave for Faith Formation with Erin Newcomb-Moore.

Scripture

1 Peter 2: 9-16

⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. ¹¹Beloved, I urge you as aliens and exiles to abstain from the desires of the flesh that wage war against the soul. ¹²Conduct yourselves honorably among the Gentiles, so that, though they malign you as evildoers, they may see your honorable deeds and glorify God when he comes to judge.

¹³For the Lord's sake accept the authority of every human institution, whether of the emperor as supreme, ¹⁴or of governors, as sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to praise those who do right. ¹⁵For it is God's will that by doing right you should silence the ignorance of the foolish. ¹⁶As servants of God, live as free people, yet do not use your freedom as a pretext for evil.

Sermon

“Truth and Reconciliation”

Pastor Nicole

Hymn

As a Fire is Meant for Burning
Words by Ruth Duck
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**As a fire is meant for burning with a bright and warming flame,
So the church is meant for mission, giving glory to God's name.
Not to preach our creeds or customs, but to build a bridge of care,
We join hands across the nations, finding neighbors everywhere.
We are learners, we are teachers, we are pilgrims on the way.
We are seekers, we are givers, we are vessels made of clay.
By our gentle, loving actions, we would show that Christ is light.
In a humble, list'ning Spirit, we would live to God's delight.**

**As a green bud in the springtime is a sign of life renewed,
So may we be signs of oneness 'mid earth's peoples, many hued.
As a rainbow lights the heavens when a storm is past and gone,
May our lives reflect the radiance of God's new and glorious dawn.**

Illuminated Faith

Castella Copeland

I Believe in Transformation

Prayers of the People

Pastoral Prayer

Prayer Response

Go Light Your World
Words and music by Chris Rice
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**Carry your candle, run to the darkness,
Seek out the hopeless, confused and torn.
Hold out your candle for all to see it.
Take your candle and go light your world.
Take your candle and go light your world.**

Announcements

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

Benediction

Postlude

Beach Spring
American traditional
Public domain
