



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



First Church in Windsor, UCC

**Thanksgiving Sunday**

*Illuminated Faith*

November 21, 2021, at 10 a.m.

**Prelude**

**Welcome**

**Acknowledging the Land**

Long before those of us who are settlers and those who are descendants of settlers came to this land to live, there were people here. We acknowledge that many Nations of Indigenous people have lived on the land. We give thanks to this land, the territory of the Podunks, Poquonocks, Saukiogs, and Tunxis and commit to the stewardship of this land.

**\*Litany of the Four Directions** (*following the tradition of some Indigenous peoples*)

As we embody the acknowledgement of Indigenous people(s) and their stewardship of the land on which we stand, let us pray, honoring the tradition of many First Nations by praying facing the four directions.

*(Facing east)*

From the east, the direction of the rising sun, we receive peace and light and wisdom and knowledge.

**We are grateful for these gifts, O God.**

*(Facing south)*

From the south come warmth, guidance, and the beginning and the end of life.

**We are grateful for these gifts, O God.**

*(Facing west)*

From the west comes the rain, purifying waters, to sustain all living things.

**We are grateful for these gifts, O God.**

*(Facing north)*

From the north come the cold and mighty wind, the white snows, giving us strength and endurance.

**We are grateful for these gifts, O God.**

*(Facing upward)*

From the heavens we receive darkness and light, the air of your breath, and messages from your winged creatures.

**We are grateful for these gifts, O God.**

*(Facing downward)*

From the earth we come and to the earth we will return.

**We are grateful for your creation, Mother Earth, O God.**

**\*Hymn**

*We Gather Together*

Netherland folk song

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**We gather together to ask for God's blessing,  
To turn to a wisdom surpassing our own.  
The pow'rs that oppress us now cease to distress us.  
O God, be present with us, and make your will known.**

**Beside us to guide us, O God, we perceive you,  
ordaining, maintaining the power of life.  
Yes, yours be the glory; let all tell the story.  
Our God be ever with us in gladness and strife.**

**May all sing your praises, Redeemer triumphant,  
Defend us, befriend us, whatever may be.  
May your congregation escape tribulation.  
Your name be praised forever, O God, make us free!**

**Prayer of Invocation**

Gift-giver, it is the time of year to gather in the produce of the earth. And so, we give thanks for the gifts of food. It is the time of year when we admire the bright colors of the season. And so, we pause to give thanks for the beauty of the earth. In our time of worship this morning, move within and among us, awakening us to your presence, moving our hearts to respond to your grace. 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**

**Choir Anthem**

*All Good Gifts*

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**Children's Moment**

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

## Scripture

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

<sup>9</sup> As I watched,  
thrones were set in place,  
and an Ancient One took his throne;  
his clothing was white as snow,  
and the hair of his head like pure wool;  
his throne was fiery flames,  
and its wheels were burning fire.  
<sup>10</sup> A stream of fire issued  
and flowed out from his presence.  
A thousand thousand served him,  
and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him.  
The court sat in judgement,  
and the books were opened.  
<sup>13</sup> As I watched in the night visions,  
I saw one like a human being  
coming with the clouds of heaven.  
And he came to the Ancient One  
and was presented before him.  
<sup>14</sup> To him was given dominion  
and glory and kingship,  
that all peoples, nations, and languages  
should serve him.  
His dominion is an everlasting dominion  
that shall not pass away,  
and his kingship is one  
that shall never be destroyed.

## Sermon

*Fire and Light*

Pastor Nicole

## Hymn

*Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*  
From Wyeth's Repository of Sacred Music  
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Come, thou fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above.  
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer, hither by thy help I've come;  
and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;  
he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!  
Let thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee.  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;  
here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.

*I Believe in the Power of a Little*

**Prayers of the People**

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Prayer Response**

*Go Light Your World*

Words by Henry Alford

Music by George J. Elvey

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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](#).

**Hymn**

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

Words by Henry Alford

Music by George J. Elvey

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**Come, ye thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home.  
All is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin.  
God, our maker, doth provide for our wants to be supplied.  
Come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.**

**All the world is God's own field, fruit unto God's praise to yield.  
Wheat and tares together sown, unto joy or sorrow grown.  
First the blade and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear.  
Lord of harvest, grant that we wholesome grain and pure may be.**

**Even so, Lord, quickly come to thy final harvest home.  
Gather thou thy people in, free from sorrow, free from sin.  
There forever purified, in thy presence to abide.  
Come, with all thine angels, come, raise the glorious harvest home.**

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude**

*With Thanks and Praise*

By Douglas Wagner

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Played by the First Church Bell Choir

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\*Please stand as you are able  
**Bolded Font** to be read by all