



Living by Faith, Known by Love, A Voice of Hope
First Church in Windsor, UCC

12 Ways to Be a Christian: Share Everything
August 14, 2022, at 10 a.m.

Prelude

Welcome

***Call to Worship (adapted from Mohammed Ali's poem "He Took a few Cups of Love")**

Leader: Jesus said "give, and it will be given to you."
He took a few cups of love.

He took one tablespoon of patience,

**People: One teaspoon of generosity,
One pint of kindness.**

Leader: He took one quart of laughter,
One pinch of concern.

People: And then, he mixed willingness with happiness.

Leader: added lots of faith,
And he stirred it up well.

**People: Then he spread it over a span of a lifetime,
And he served it to each and every person he met.**

***Hymn**

God of the Fertile Fields
Words by Georgia Harkness
Music by Felice de Giardini
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**God of the fertile fields, shaper of earth that yields our daily bread;
Forth from your bounteous hand come gifts your love has planned,
That all in every land be clothed and fed.**

**We would be stewards true, holding in trust from you all that you give;
Help us in love to share, teach us like you to care
For people everywhere, that all may live.**

**As grows the hidden seed to fruit that serves our need, your reign yet grows.
So let our toil be used, no gift of yours abused,
No humble task refused your love bestows.**

**God of the countryside, dear to the Christ who died to make us one;
We pledge our lives anew in faithful love to you;
Guide all we say and do, till life is done.**

Prayer of Invocation

Gracious God, who gives and gives and gives to us again, hear our plea for one more gift: a generous spirit. May we commit ourselves to one another in a unity of mutual respect and care. May your life be seen in our actions and our relationships. May we find and use and return to you all that you have given. For you are the source of the gift of life itself. In the name of Jesus we pray, 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

Anthem

God Is Love

By Rory Cooney

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Children's Moment

Poem

The Orange

By Wendy Cope

At lunchtime I bought a huge orange—
The size of it made us all laugh.
I peeled it and shared it with Robert and Dave—
They got quarters and I got a half.

And that orange, it made me so happy,
As ordinary things often do
Just lately. The shopping. A walk in the park.
This is peace and contentment. It's new.

The rest of the day was quite easy.
I did all the jobs on my list
And enjoyed them and had some time over.
I love you. I'm glad I exist.

Scripture

Acts 2:42-47

⁴²They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. ⁴⁴All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

“Share Everything”

*Hymn

My Shepherd, You Supply My Need

Words by Isaac Watts

Music from Southern Harmony

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**My Shepherd, you supply my need; most holy is your name.
In pastures fresh you make me feed beside the living stream.
You bring my wand’ring spirit back, when I forsake your ways;
You lead me, for your mercy’s sake, in paths of truth and grace.**

**When through the shades of death I walk, your presence is my stay.
One word of your supporting breath drives all my fears away.
Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my table spread;
My cup with blessings overflows, your oil anoints my head.**

**Your sure provisions, gracious God, attend me all my days.
O may your house be my abode, and all my work be praise.
Here would I find a settled rest, while others go and come;
No more a stranger, nor a guest, but like a child at home.**

**Pastoral Prayer & Prayers of the People
Blessing of the Backpacks**

Prayer Response

If You Say “Go”

Words and music by Diane Thiel

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**If you say, 'Go,' we will go.
If you say, 'Wait,' we will wait.
If you say, 'Step out on the water,'
and they say it can't be done,
we'll fix our eyes on you and we will come.**

Announcements

Offering Plates are on the tables back of the church. If you wish, you may give online [here](#).

*Hymn

Pass It On

Words and music by Kurt Kaiser

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**It only takes a spark to get a fire going,
And soon all those around can warm up in its glowing.
That’s how it is with God’s love, once you’ve experienced it:
You spread God’s love to everyone, you want to pass it on.**

**What a wondrous time is spring when all the trees are budding,
The birds begin to sing, the flowers start their blooming.
That's how it is with God's love, once you've experienced it:
You want to sing, it's fresh like spring, you want to pass it on.**

**I wish for you, my friend, this happiness that I've found—
On God you can depend, it matters not where you're bound.
I'll shout it from the mountain top, I want my world to know:
The Lord of love has come to me, I want to pass it on.**

***Benediction**

Postlude
