



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

Mosaic of Gratitude
Stewardship Sunday
November 20, 2022, at 10 a.m.

Prelude

Welcome

***Call to Worship**

You Make Beautiful Things
Words and music by Michael and Lisa Gungor
C 2009 Worship Together Songs
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**You make beautiful things, you make beautiful things out of dust.
You make beautiful things, you make beautiful things out of us.**

The ship of my life may or may not be sailing on calm and amiable seas. The challenging days of my existence may or may not be bright and promising. Stormy or sunny days, glorious or lonely nights, I maintain an attitude of gratitude. If I insist on being pessimistic, there is always tomorrow. Today I am blessed.”

Passing of the Peace

Leader: May the Peace of the Creator God be with you

People: And also with you

Leader: Let us share a wave of peace.

Please make sure to wave to our online community, send a text message of peace to someone, or pass the peace in the chat on Facebook.

Hymn

We Gather Together
Netherlands folk song
Public domain

**We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing,
Who hastens and chastens God's will to make known.
The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing.
Sing praises to God's name, who forgets not their own.**

**Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining,
Ordaining, sustaining the kingdom divine.
So from the beginning the fight we were winning;
Thou, Lord, wast at our side, all glory be thine.**

**We all do extol thee, our leader triumphant,
And pray that thou still our defender wilt be.
Let thy congregation escape tribulation.
Thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!**

Prayer of Invocation

God of love and generosity, for the gifts you have dispersed into the world, we give you thanks. For all that has been gathered here, the people, the resources, the hope, and the life, we give you thanks. Give us the strength to be your generous people, the courage to be commissioned, the hearts to give, and the wisdom to send ourselves and our money where you would have them go. Send your Spirit on us and in us, wherever we are, O God, and on this gathering of your gifts. For we have gathered in the name of our Good Shepherd, the one who always leads us home: In Jesus' name 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

Children's Moment

Scripture

Jeremiah 29:10-14

¹⁰For thus says the Lord: Only when Babylon's seventy years are completed will I visit you, and I will fulfill to you my promise and bring you back to this place. ¹¹For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. ¹²Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. ¹³When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, ¹⁴I will let you find me, says the Lord, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, says the Lord, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile.

Sermon

Pastor Nicole

“A Future with Hope”

Anthem

Family Circle

By R.E. Brown and B.F. White

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Pastoral Prayer & Prayers of the People

Stewardship Moment

Litany of Dedication for Stewardship Pledges

Leader: Everlasting God, we give you thanks this day as we gather the pledges of support for your Church in the coming year. We bring them before you with eager anticipation and hope.

People: Hear us, O God, as we give you our thanks and praise.

Leader: For those whose lives have been touched by your Spirit, who have increased their commitment,

People: We give you thanks and praise.

Leader: For those who are responding to your creative grace by pledging for the first time,

People: We give you thanks and praise.

Leader: For those who are tithing and even exceeding a tithe,

People: We give you thanks and praise.

Leader: For those whose lives are in transition or turmoil and who feel they cannot pledge but who continue to be a vital part of our community,

People: We give you thanks and praise, and we pray for calm in their lives.

Leader: For committee workers who have labored in this effort to enable your people to make a pledge of support for your church,

People: We give you thanks and praise.

Leader: That each one of us, and your whole church, become more faithful to the call of service in Jesus,

People: We ask your continuing guidance and care.

Leader: That these pledges may emerge as real gifts, thereby enabling the mission and ministry of Jesus to move forward through this congregation and the wider church,

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, we commit ourselves to this action. Amen and Amen.

Please bring up pledge cards to the box. If you have made an online pledge, also come forward and touch the box, symbolizing your commitment.

Prayer Response

Bringing in the Sheaves (response version)

Words by Knowles Shaw

Music by George Minor

Public domain

**Bringing in the sheaves, bringing in the sheaves,
We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves.
Bringing in the sheaves, bringing in the sheaves,
We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves.**

Announcements

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

*Hymn

Come, Ye Thankful

Words by Henry Alford

Music by George J. Elvey

Public domain

**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

Carrie Crompton, hammered dulcimer

**Please stand as you are able.*
Bolded font to be read by all/

We extend our sincere thanks to our guest musician, Carrie Crompton