

**Congregational Church of Harvard**

***United Church of Christ***



**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**

**Third Sunday after the Epiphany**

**January 23, 2022**

**10:00 AM**

**Ringing of the Bell**

**Prelude**

**Olivia Liang**

**Meditative Thought**

Our commitment to the unity of Christ's church is affirmed by the words of our symbol "That They May All Be One" (John 17:21). Itself a union of several Christian traditions, the United Church of Christ is actively engaged in ecumenical relationships that seek to heal the broken unity of the Body of Christ. Our commitment to relationships with all the peoples of the earth has led the United Church of Christ to enter into dialogue with other faith traditions. [www.ucc.org](http://www.ucc.org)

**Words of Welcome and Announcements**

**Introit**

**“Gather Us In”**

**Marty Haugen**

## **Call to Worship**

One: Brothers and sisters, we are united today with our siblings in the four corners of the world as we gather to pray for the visible unity of the Church. Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving and joy,

**Many: bringing all the sick, the suffering, the marginalized, the refugees, and the uprooted before him, knowing that God can dispel the darkness with his light. As we pray today for the unity of the Church, may we and our communities be lights that guide others on their pathways home to God.**

One: Glory be to you, O God, for you have revealed yourself through your creation and invited all people to stand in your presence. Like the magi who followed a star in the East to the newborn child, we too have seen the star and followed it to your newborn child. We ask that you would send your Spirit upon us and our siblings around the world.

**Many: Unite us with one another as we gather from the North and the South, from the East and from the West, old and young, men and women to share in your vision “that all may be one.”**

**Hymn**

**“In Christ There Is No East or West”**

## **Unison Opening Prayer**

**O God, we marvel at the glory of your creation of heaven and earth, for you have set the lights in the vault of the sky. You separated light from darkness and arranged signs to mark sacred times, days, and years. You studded the firmament with stars. We rejoice in the majesty of your creation and delight in its diversity. Open us to the gifts of your various churches and cultures that we may be at peace with one another. Send your Spirit to bind up old wounds and to heal the broken unity of the Body of Christ. We pray as Jesus as taught us “Our Father....debts/debtors...” Amen.**

## **Gloria Patri**

## **Sharing of Our Joys and Concerns**

We sing “Peace Be with You” to the tune of the eight-fold Alleluia.

## **Responsive Reading      A Song of Faith      United Church of Canada**

**One:** We are each given particular gifts of the Spirit.

For the sake of the world, God calls all followers of Jesus to Christian ministry.

**Many:** **In the church, some are called to specific ministries of leadership both lay and ordered; some witness to the good news; some uphold the art of worship; some comfort the grieving and guide the wandering;**

**One:** some build up the community of wisdom; some stand with the oppressed and work for justice.

**Many:** **To embody God’s love in the world, the work of the church requires the ministry and discipleship of all believers.**

One: We sing of the Spirit, who is creatively and redemptively active in the world.

**Many: We sing of the Spirit, who speaks our prayers of deepest longing and enfolds our concerns and confessions, transforming us and the world.**

**First Reading** 1 Corinthians 12:4-11

**Hymn of Preparation** “Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness”

**Gospel Reading** Matthew 5:13-16

**Sermon** New Light Is Streaming  
Rev. Karen Dorshimer-Chaplin

**Celebration of 200 Years**

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Congregational Church of Harvard Covenant Statement**

We covenant with God and with one another; to grow together in faith through prayer, study, and worship; to share in a ministry of service that proclaims, teaches, and lives out the Word of God; to show our commitment to justice and peace by all that we say and do; to affirm our covenant with the United Church of Christ and the world-wide Christian church; and to follow Christ's example of inclusive love, relying always on God's help and grace.

## Stewardship Invitation

# Epiphany Doxology

To God, all glorious heavenly Light,  
to Christ revealed in earthly night,  
to God the Spirit now we raise  
our joyful songs of thankful praise.

## Prayer of Dedication

## Sending Forth

One: Grateful for God's loving action; we cannot keep from singing.

**Many: Creating and seeking relationship, in awe and trust,  
we witness to Holy Mystery who is Wholly Love.**

## **Closing Hymn**      “O God, Our Help in Ages Past”

## **Benediction**

Postlude Olivia Liang

**Notes about today's service:**



Parts of today's liturgy are adapted from and used by permission of the World Council of Churches. This year's resources were prepared by the Middle East Council of Churches for the Week of Prayer and Christian Unity. About the logo of the World Council of Churches: "the church is portrayed as a boat afloat on the sea of the world with the mast in the form of a cross. These early Christian symbols of the church embody faith and unity and carry the message of the ecumenical movement." [www.oikoumene.org](http://www.oikoumene.org)

The image of 1 Corinthians 12:4-11, copyright 2021, Nicholas Markell/Eyekons, used by permission.

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## **Prayer List**

Arnold Bradley (Dennis Bradley's father)

Ebit

Father Joaquin

Harriet Perry

Charlie Gorss

Arline Marteney

Karl Kreeb

Bill Davies

Stan Tuttle

Phil Davies

Jenny Giering

Tim First

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Per Harvard Board of Health**

Effective January 15, face coverings are mandatory in all public indoor spaces in Harvard (regardless of vaccination status). If you come in to the church and forget a mask, we have basic disposable masks available.

**Reminder:** Susan is currently working remotely. The best way to be in contact is via the church email account ([office@harvarducc.org](mailto:office@harvarducc.org)). Mail will be checked regularly.