**The Original Congregational Church**

**United Church of Christ**

 **Sunday, July 25th, 2021 9:30am**

 **Ninth Sunday after Pentecost**

*With restrictions currently rescinded, masking is optional.
Thank you for caring for each other’s our well-being.*

 Order of Worship

PRELUDE **“Precious Lord, Take my Hand”**

 Thomas A. Dorsey (1899-1993)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The power of God is at work.

**People: We seek to know the love of Christ.**

Leader: Let the Spirit dwell in your inner being.

**People: We worship the Lord in holy splendor.**

\*OPENING HYMN ***The Church’s One Foundation***

The church’s one foundation is Jesus Christ, our Lord;

We are a new creation by water and the word;

From heav’n he came and sought us, for us was crucified;

With his own blood he bought us, and for our life he died.

Elect from ev’ry nation, yet one o’er all the earth,

Our charter of salvation, one Lord, one faith, one birth,

One holy name professing, we share one holy food,

And to one hope still pressing, with every grace endued.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING PRAYER

God of Creation, we praise you for the beauty of the earth. All your creatures look to you for your sustaining love and care. We confess that we forget the source of all our blessings. We become distracted by all our worldly cares and concerns. Keep us grounded in your love, able to withstand the adversity that comes our way. May all we do and all we become remain rooted in your way of love and service. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

 **\*All who are able please stand**

 (1)

THE LORD’S PRAYER *all versions are welcomed in the Spirit*

**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

RESPONSIVE READING *from Psalm 1*

Leader: Blessed is the one who walks not with the wicked;

**People: Nor stands with the way of the sinners.**

Leader: Our delight is in the law of the Lord;

**People: On God’s law we meditate day and night.**

Leader: Be as a tree planted by streams of water;

**People: Yielding fruit in its due season.**

Leader: The leaf does not wither;

**People: We may prosper in all we do.**

Leader: The Lord knows the way of the righteous.

**People: They will not be driven away by the wind.**

\*ACT OF PRAISE ***Now Thank We All Our God***

All praise and thanks to God, the Father now be given,

The Son and Spirit blest, who reigns in highest heaven.

The one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore,

For thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

 SCRIPTURE READING

Ephesians 3:14-21 “May Christ Dwell in Your Heart”

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of God’s glory, God may grant that you be strengthened in your inner being with power through the Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love.”

SERMON “Roots and Fruits”

\*HYMN SING

*Please see pages 6 & 7 for Hymns*

CALL TO PRAYER

Leader: Christ is with us.

**People: Christ is in our midst.**

Leader: Let us pray.

SILENT PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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CALL TO OFFERING & SERVICE

It is a blessing to serve. Let us give our gifts to the glory of God.

OFFERTORY

\*DOXOLOGY

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Dear God, may all who receive be sustained in your love! Amen.

\*COMMISSIONING & CONNECTING

Hang onto love and let the Spirit sustain you!

\*CLOSING HYMN ***Be Thou My Vision***

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;

I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;

Thou my Redeemer, my love thou hast won;

Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,

Thou mine inheritance, now and always;

Thou and thou only, first in my heart,

Ruler of heaven, my treasure thou art.

\*SPOKEN BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE **“O Happy Day”**  Spiritual

*Please join in singing.*

[Refrain] O happy day, O happy day, when Jesus washed,

(when Jesus washed), when Jesus washed (when Jesus washed), when Jesus washed (when Jesus washed),

He washed my sins away. O happy day, O happy day!

He taught me how to watch, fight and pray!

And He’ll rejoice with me everyday! [Refrain]

DISMISSAL

*Please join us for coffee hour refreshments and continued conversation with friends*

Thank you for being with us in worship this morning!

 We are glad to have you join us for a portion of your Sunday morning!

 May God bless you with all the gifts of the Spirit!

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  **HYMN SING**

***Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah***

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land;

I am weak, but you are mighty; hold me with thy powerful hand.

Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more;

Feed me till I want no more.

***Open My Eyes***

Open my eyes, that I may see glimpses of truth thou hast for me;

Place in my hands the wonderful key

That shall unclasp, and set me free.

Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.

Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!

***How Firm a Foundation, O Saints of the Lord***

How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,

Is laid for your faith in God’s excellent word!

What more can God say than to you has been said,

To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

“Fear not! I am with you, O be not dismayed,

For I am your God and will still give you aid;

I’ll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,

Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.”

 ***In the Bulb There is a Flower***

There’s a song in ev’ry silence, seeking word and melody;

There’s a dawn in ev’ry darkness, bringing hope to you and me.

From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery,

Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

***How Great Thou Art***

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder

Consider all the works Thy Hand hath made.
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed.

[Refrain] Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!

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