

**June 4, 2023**

**11 a.m.**

Flowers given by: **Gib and Jeannie Mitchell**, in honor of our **63<sup>rd</sup>** wedding anniversary  
Thank you to Helaine Eckstein for the beautiful PRIDE parament on the pulpit. So grateful to  
Helaine for the beautiful support!

PRELUDE

*Trumpet Tune*

Frederick Swann

INVITATION to WORSHIP

One: Gathered here in the mystery of this hour, we worship the One whose creativity and curiosity is still at work.

Many: **We open to God's wisdom, born in a dusty, drafty barn rather than a posh, polished, plush palace.**

One: We worship Christ who embodied love, justice, peace, and cultivated connections.

Many: **We open to Christ's way of engaging everyone he met from the deeply religious to those on the fringe and fray.**

One: We dance with the Spirit whose energy fuels our lives.

Many: **We open to a Spirit that moves and motivates our lives in ways that still cause the world to scratch and shake its head.**

One: Let the people of God gathered here worship the One who delights in prayer and praise.

Many: **It is good to *here*. Alleluia and Amen.**

\*OPENING HYMN

*O For a World*

#575

**O for a world where everyone respects each other's ways, Where love is lived and all is done with justice and with praise.**

**O for a world where goods are shared and misery relieved, Where truth is spoken, children spared, equality achieved.**

**We welcome one world family and struggle with each choice, That opens us to unity and gives our vision voice.**

**The poor are rich, the weak are strong, the foolish ones are wise. Tell all who mourn: outcasts belong, who perishes will rise.**

**O for a world preparing for God's glorious reign of peace, Where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.**

\*OPENING PRAYER

**Nourishing and nurturing God, up from the earth and soil You craft a people, giving us life, breath, and love. Meet us here at this moment. Like the church in Corinth, we can feel pulled in different directions that create divisiveness. We can sometimes draw lines in the sand and give ultimatums about being with us or against us. We are uncomfortable with ambiguity, not knowing the answers, and feeling like we are standing on shifting sand. Help us, O God, for we long to lean in and listen to *Your* wisdom; which doesn't promise to solve all our problems magically, but meets us with beautiful mystery. Help us,**

**O God, especially when Your call goes against the grain of conventional wisdom the world preaches. Open our hearts to Your sweet, sweet Spirit that continues to connect us with threads of love we need for the living out of these days. In the name of the One we follow, Jesus the Christ. Amen.**

\*SCHOLARSHIP HYMN

*Now in the Days of Youth*

#350

**Now in the days of youth when life is filled with choice, when hope and doubt touch every hour, when all thoughts find a voice. We turn, O God, to You for guidance and for grace.  
In all our days, in all our ways, help us to seek your face.**

**Teacher, Creator, God, enfold us in Your arms; be with us as we try our wings, and keep us safe from harm. All good and perfect gifts come to us from Your hand. O help us use them carefully and live by love's command.**

ENGAGING SCRIPTURE

1 Corinthians 1 and 3, *selected verses*

<sup>18</sup> For the message about the cross is silliness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved, it *is* the power of God. <sup>20</sup> Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup> For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. <sup>25</sup> For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. <sup>4</sup> For when one says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos," are you not all too human? <sup>5</sup> What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. <sup>6</sup> I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. <sup>8</sup> The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and each will receive wages according to their own labor. <sup>9</sup> For we are God's coworkers, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

SERMON

OFFERING/ANTHEM

*Thou Art Holy*

arr. Craig Courtney

INVITATION to COMMUNION

One: May the inclusive, expansive, affirming love of God be with you.

**Many: And also, with you.**

One: Come to the table celebrating that you are crafted beautifully in God's image.

**Many: We honor our first, middle, and last name is, "Beloved".**

One: Give thanks to God who welcomes everyone to the feast.

**Many: We bring our prayer that this table may one day be the reality of the world.**

PASTORAL PRAYER and LORD'S PRAYER

**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. Amen.**

**The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ our Lord; we are Christ's new creation by water and the word; From heaven Christ came and sought us in love to set us free; with precious blood Christ bought us for all eternity.**

**Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth, one charter of salvation, one God, one faith, one birth, One name together blessing, one holy food we share, to one hope we are pressing, at one in work and prayer.**

**'Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of our war, we wait the consummation of peace for ever more; Till with the vision glorious, our longing eyes are blessed, and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.**

**Yet we on earth have union with God, the Three in One, and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won. O happy ones and holy! God, give us grace that we, like them, the meek and lowly, may live eternally.**

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Toccata Brevis*

Daniel Gawthrop

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS ~ SUNDAY, June 4, 2023**

**Summer Worship Schedule continues next Sunday, June 11<sup>th</sup>: 8:45 am in the chapel**~ we worship with the sun streaming/shining through the stained glass. This is an interactive and short service. **AND ~ 11 am in the sanctuary and online** ~ our traditional service with our amazing choir. Please note that on **June 18<sup>th</sup>, there will be ONE service at 11 am**. We will return to our Summer Worship Schedule on Sunday, June 26<sup>th</sup> and throughout the month of July.

One June 18<sup>th</sup>, we welcome Rev. Ellen Marsey to preach at the 11 am service. As part of our Father's Day celebration, we ask you to please email a **picture of your father** to the church office ([admin@uccsarasota.com](mailto:admin@uccsarasota.com)). Or you can stop by the office, during office hours, to have the picture scanned to be part of our worship that day. Thank you!

**Sacred Conversations on Race ~ The group will remain hybrid ~ in person in the Oasis Center OR on Zoom at 3 pm the Second and Fourth Wednesday.** Upcoming Topics: **June 14:** "A Conversation about Growing Up Black" and "A Conversation with White People on Race" – NY Times Op-Docs; **June 28:** "The Danger of a Single Story" – TED TALK by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

**COLLAGE (LGBTQ + Allies) News ~ JUNE is PRIDE MONTH!!** Our COLLAGE (LGBTQ + Allies) group will meet on zoom on **Tuesday, June 13 and 27 at 11 am**. This is a wonderful chance to connect! **SILVER PRIDE, June 10<sup>th</sup> ~ -COLLAGE** will be hosting a table at the Sarasota Senior Center. This is a wonderful way to reach out to LGBTQ+ seniors and their

Allies. Please sign up to help offer a warm welcome to those at this event. **COLLAGE LUNCHEON, June 11<sup>th</sup> ~ Mayomi Fowowe-Makinde**, a Gay man born and raised in Nigeria where he lived in constant fear for his life, will be our special speaker. When he was outed by a family member, he escaped from his native country to avoid imprisonment. (It is illegal to be Gay in Nigeria and family members face 10 years of imprisonment if they know a family member is Gay and do not report it.) The presentation is open to all. Please sign up in advance if you want lunch.

**Ready Readers ~ June 8<sup>th</sup> at noon in the Oasis Center.** We welcome and encourage the participation and input of new members. For more information and further updates, contact Sandy Smith at [sandysmithvi@gmail.com](mailto:sandysmithvi@gmail.com) or 340-227-5121. For our June 8<sup>th</sup> meeting we will be discussing a children's book, *Sparrow's Prayer*, by Roger Hutchison. When words are hard to find, prayer blooms in unexpected ways. "Sparrow wakes each morning, ready to sing a prayer of thanksgiving. But not today. Today his words get tangled and knotted in his beak like old yarn and straw. He feels sad and gray, and he's not sure why. So, Sparrow decides to ask his friends Turtle, Mousie, and Buck for advice on how to pray. Each friend shows Sparrow a different way to pray without words, through generosity, art, and movement. *Sparrow's Prayer* is a tale about an unexpected and life-changing encounter with the holy."

**SHOP ONCE FOR TWO GREAT CAUSES: On Fathers' Day, Sunday, June 18, you are invited to bring items for both Second Chance Last Opportunity AND Family Promise. Shop lists are below. As you come to worship** Lucy Hedrick will open her car's trunk for Second Chance Last Opportunity. Jim Marsey will have his car's trunk open for Family Promise. As you shop over the next few weeks, pick out a few items from the lists below to help reach out with God's love.

**Second Chance Last Opportunity needs:** paper towels, toilet paper, boxes of soap, laundry detergent, toothpaste, toothbrushes, personal items for ladies (pads), deodorant (men and women), socks and underwear (men and women), plastic sandwich bags/freezer gallon bags, Clorox, all-purpose cleaners, boxes of Bounce, garbage bags, dishwashing soap, alcohol swabs, lotions, wash cloths, and pampers (all sizes).

**Family Promise needs:** **For babies:** baby wash/shampoo, microwave sterilizer bags for bottles, baby pacifiers, baby lotions/diaper rash crème, waterproof mattress pads (pack and play size), muslin swaddle blankets, bottle replacement nipples (Dr. Brown/Tommee tippy), baby layette sets, diapers (new-born or size one), Diaper Genie refill bags. **For moms:** body wash, share sanitizer, disposable pads (36X36), hand/body lotion, nursing pads (washable), hair styling tools (dryer/curling iron), small flashlights/batteries. **General supplies:** insect repellent, sunscreen (adult/child), laundry soap/bleach, paper towels, facial tissues, toilet paper, dishwasher soap/tabs, dish soap, kitchen/bath cleaners, Swiffer duster refills, light bulbs, tall garbage can liners.

**COLLECT WATER ~** As you travel this summer, **please collect water from wherever you visit!** Remember, you can gather water from local Florida areas or exotic/exciting places like Iowa! We will have a gathering of the waters on October 29<sup>th</sup>, and we need YOUR help.

## CALENDAR

### Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup>

Sunday Worship, 8:45 am, chapel

Sunday Worship, 11 am, in the sanctuary and online

Fellowship ~ Birthday Sunday! ~ Syster Hall, noon  
Reading Bible in the Year Group ~ Oasis and zoom ~ 1 pm

**Monday, June 5<sup>th</sup>**

Racial Justice Mission Group, zoom, 11 am  
Bible in a Year Conversation, Oasis Center and zoom, 1 pm  
Core Values Working Group, Oasis Center and Zoom, 2:15 pm

**Tuesday, June 6<sup>th</sup>**

Tuesday Night Bible Study, Zoom, 6:30 pm

**Wednesday, June 7<sup>th</sup>**

Wednesday Morning Bible Study, Oasis and Zoom, 11 am  
Worship Team, Zoom, 1 pm

**Thursday, June 8<sup>th</sup>**

Finance Team, Zoom, 3 pm

**Saturday, June 10<sup>th</sup>**

Silver Pride at Sarasota Senior Center, Noon to 4 pm

**Sunday, June 11<sup>th</sup> ~ PRIDE SUNDAY**

Sunday Worship, 8:45 am, chapel  
Sunday Worship, 11 am, in the sanctuary and online  
COLLAGE Luncheon and Speaker, noon, SIGN UP for a lunch!!

*We encourage you to subscribe to the weekly **Midweek Message** via your email  
to keep connected with activities in the church.*