

First Congregational United Church of Christ

September 18, 2022



Photo by Hermes Rivera

2nd Sunday of the Season of Creation

Ministers: All who are a part of Christ's Body

Preachers: Rev. Enno K. Limvere & Vicar Mary Ellen Ashcroft

Musicians: Mike Debevec and Friends

Gathering Music

Words of Welcome

Prelude The Timeless Dawn

Gathering Hymn

We Were Meant To Sing

Confession and Fanfare For The Forgiven

Forgiveness

Kyrie & Lighting of Peace Candle

Canticle of Praise

1st Timothy 2:1-7 (NRSV Anglicized)

2 First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings should be made for everyone, **2** for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. **3** This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour, **4** who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. **5** For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, **6** who gave himself a ransom for all

—this was attested at the right time. **7** For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

Psalm 25

Jeremiah 8:18-9:1 (NRSV Anglicized)

18 My joy is gone, grief is upon me, my heart is sick.

19 Hark, the cry of my poor people from far and wide in the land:

‘Is the LORD not in Zion? Is her King not in her?’

(‘Why have they provoked me to anger with their images, with their foreign idols?’)

20 ‘The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved.’

21 For the hurt of my poor people I am hurt, I mourn, and dismay has taken hold of me.

22 Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there?

Why then has the health of my poor people not been restored?

9 O that my head were a spring of water, and my eyes a fountain of tears, so that I might weep day and night for the slain of my poor people!

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 1:39-56 (NRSV Catholic Tradition)

³⁹ In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, ⁴⁰ where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹ When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit ⁴² and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. ⁴³ And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? ⁴⁴ For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵ And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

⁴⁶ And Mary said,

"My soul magnifies the Lord,

⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

⁴⁸ for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.

Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

⁴⁹ for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name.

⁵⁰ His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.

⁵¹ He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

⁵² He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly;

⁵³ he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty.

⁵⁴ He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy,

⁵⁵ according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

⁵⁶ And Mary remained with her about three months and then returned to her home.

Hymn of the Day O Strengthen My Soul

Message Hear the Cry of the Earth and the Cry of the Poor

Offering Somewhere Over the Rainbow/What a Wonderful World

Communion

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you.

R: **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

R: **We lift them to God.**

Let us give thanks to God, whose spirit is with us.

R: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

For you, Creator God, the valleys laugh and sing and the trees of the field clap their hands. Your earth summons us to break silence and be one with the song of creation.

R: **We give you thanks and praise.**

For you, God of all, the church in its myriad forms and countless languages honors its Savior. Millions upon millions invite us to be one with them in the drama of worship.

R: **We give you thanks and praise.**

Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer

In heaven, beyond our seeing, the angels and saints are caught up in song. And those we have loved and lost are part of that great company. They call us to be one with the harmony of heaven.

R: **We give you thanks and praise.**

So, gladly, we join our voices to those of earth, sea and sky, in the universal hymn of praise which echoes through time and eternity.

Holy, Holy, Holy

Eucharistic Prayer

Among friends gathered around a table...

As Jesus broke bread, we break this bread.

As Jesus shared wine we share this cup.

Risen Christ you see us as we are.

R: **May we become what you are.**

Communion Hymn

Hallelujah

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Lord's Prayer

Our Father/Mother God, 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. 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.

News of God at Work in our Churches and Community

Benediction & Invitation

Postlude Flight of the Raven

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER LIST: Meredith Eliot (Church-Davison), Vicki Biggs-Anderson, Paulette Anholm, Kris Baxter, Mike Carlson, Gwen Dornfeld, Tom Yuhasey, Sally Dunn, Arlene Cleberg, Jean Thomas, and The Community of Uvalde and Highland Park, The People of Ukraine,
Shut-ins and Care Center: Nona Smith, Lou Goodell, Bev Denyes.

MEASURE OF OUR FAITHFULNESS:

The First Congregational UCC Budget adopted in January 2022 shows a need for a yearly income of \$151,756.

After 36 weeks the Budget Donations and Income should be \$105,061.76

The Actual Donations so far this year have been \$100,647.01

Thank You for all your support.
Kevin R Le Voir, Treasurer

DONATE ONLINE! We now have a Donation button on our church website as another option to give your pledges and offerings. Simply go to grandmaraisucc.org, and click the Donation button in the top right corner.

THIS WEEK

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

7:00 AM - AA

8:00 AM - Harbor Watch

5:00 PM Rally for Democracy – HWY 61 & Wisconsin Str.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

10:30 AM - Surely Discipleship group

SUNDAY, SEPTMBER 18

10:30 AM – *Inside* AND ON [ZOOM](#) 2nd **Sunday of Creation**, on this Sunday, the Spirit of the Wilderness Episcopal church will join us for a Jazz worship lead by Mike Debevec to hear the cry of the world and the poor in this Season of Creation. We will listen to the prophet Jeremiah to the consequences of neglecting those around us and Jesus who tells a parable of a dishonest steward who won the right friends. climate crisis.

1:00 PM – CCHE Block Party

4:00 PM – Journey Discipleship Group

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

7:00 AM - AA (FS)

3:00-5:00PM - Food Shelf Open to Public (LL)

7:00 PM - ALANON

MONDAY – WEDNESDAY

Pastor Enno will be participating in the UCC Summit: The emerging church in a post-pandemic world online.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

5:00 PM – Board of Directors Meeting: Click [HERE](#) to join.

7:00 PM - ZEN

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

7:00 AM - AA (FS)

6:00 PM - Sing-a-Long & Music Jam

THURSDAY, September 22

10:00 AM – Tai Chi

12:00 PM - Women's AA (FS)

1:30 PM – Bible Study: Book of James

5:00 PM – Library Board

FRIDAY, September 23

7:00 AM - AA (FS)

8:00 AM – Harbor Watch

5:00 PM – Rally for Democracy

SUNDAY, September 25

9:30 AM—Pick up choir at Maple Hill

10:30 AM – **At Maple Hill** AND ON [ZOOM](#) 3rd Sunday of Creation, on the this Sunday, we will go and worship with Spirit of the Wilderness as they host us and Buff Grace, who works with Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light, as he shares their story and weaves it all in the story of the Rich Man and Lazarus.

OUR CHURCH OFFICE CONTINUES TO BE CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE: Pastor Enno and Office Manager, Nancy Backlund, are in the building at unscheduled times. For pastoral emergencies, please contact our new Settled Pastor, Rev. Enno Limvere at (605) 460-0330.

FOLLOW US ON:

Facebook – First Congregational UCC Grand Marais.

Instagram - Grandmaraisucc

Website - grandmaraisucc.org

FOOD SHELF: The Food Shelf is distributing food each Monday, from 3:00-5:00 pm, also on the 1st Wednesday of each month, 4:30-6:30 pm, downstairs in our church building. You can support their work by sending your checks to Food Shelf, P.O. Box 51, Grand Marais, MN 55604.

GIVING DURING THIS TIME OF SUSPENDED SERVICES AND PROGRAMS: It is tremendously heartening, for both your church staff and church lay leaders, to see such generous giving continuing during this time. Your on-going support of our ministries are especially important now. We encourage each of you to find ways to continue to support our ministries. continuing to give to our church by:

1. Download the “VANCO” mobile app on your smartphone, to give with your credit card on-line. Enter our church name or 55604 zip code, then choose our church account. This is a program of VANCO, with whom we already have a contract for such transactions.
2. Contact Kevin LeVoir, our Treasurer, about automatic deposit from your personal bank account, at krlevoir@aol.com.
3. Send a check in the US mail! P.O. Box 95, Grand Marais, MN 55604.

We extend a warm welcome to all who may be worshipping with us for the first time. If you would like more information about our ministries, contact Pastor Enno at ennotherev@gmail.com or 605-460-0330.

We are a progressive Christian congregation, with roots in the New England Congregational tradition and now are part of the wider denomination of the United Church of Christ. As a Just Peace Church, and welcoming of the LGBTQIA2+ community, we seek to provide a spiritual home for seekers of all ages and backgrounds. Please know that wherever you are on your spiritual journey, there is a place for you in our congregation.

Purpose and Mission First Congregational United Church of Christ is an open, inclusive church that exists to worship God and practice the gospel of Jesus Christ. We welcome all people of goodwill who seek to share the love of God and honor the diversity of creation in a spirit of tolerance and flexibility. As a Just Peace Church, we invite all who seek the reign of God to join us in reaching out in healing ministry,

working for justice, witnessing for peace and striving to overcome all forms of oppression. We recognize two sacraments: Baptism and Communion

Our Open and Affirming Covenant We covenant to be an accessible, open and affirming community of faith, committed to peace and justice, reaching out in healing love to all of creation. We exist to worship God and practice the gospel. We welcome all persons, including those of all races, ethnicities, ages, sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions, family structures, faith backgrounds, abilities and economic circumstances to fully share and participate in leadership, ministry, fellowship, worship, sacraments, responsibilities, blessings and joys of our church family.

Board of Directors:

Tom Yuhasey, Moderator tjuhas@boreal.org
Jenny Delfs, jendelfs@boreal.org
Kevin LeVoir, Treasurer krlevoir@aol.com
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