

**St Paul's
UCC**

**Henderson
MN**

**October
23rd,
2022**



Organ Prelude

**Ringing of
the Bell**

***Call to Worship**

What a beautiful thing to
be called to worship!

What a gift to come together in praise!

We are different people with different lives
and different stories.

But, in Christ, we are one.

So, as one, we come
and worship our God.

**As one, we set aside our differences,
and focus on our shared
identity in Christ.**

Let us come together in worship.

Let us come together in praise.

Let us come together

because we are one in him.

We now join now in worship.

Spirit of Gentleness

**Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,
blow through the wilderness
calling and free;**

**Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,
stir me from placidness, wind,
wind on the sea.**

You moved on the waters,
you called to the deep,
then you coaxed up the mountains
from the valleys of sleep;
and over the eons you
called to each thing:
Awake from your slumbers
and rise on your wings.

Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,
blow through the wilderness
calling and free;

Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,
stir me from placidness, wind,
wind on the sea.

You swept through the desert,
you stung with the sand,
and you goaded your people
with a law and a land;
and when they were blinded
with idols and lies,
then you spoke through your
prophets to open their eyes.

Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,
blow through the wilderness
calling and free;

Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,
stir me from placidness, wind,
wind on the sea.

You sang in a stable,
you cried from a hill,
then you whispered in silence when
the whole world was still;
and down in the city
you called once again,
when you blew through your people on
the rush of the wind.

Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,
blow through the wilderness
calling and free;

Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,
stir me from placidness, wind,
wind on the sea.

You call from tomorrow,
you break ancient schemes.
From the bondage of sorrow
all the captives dream dreams;
our women see visions,
our men clear their eyes.
With bold new decisions
your people arise.

Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,
blow through the wilderness
calling and free;

Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,
stir me from placidness, wind,
wind on the sea.



Prayer
of confession

Gloria Patri

***Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost:
As it was in the beginning,
is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, Amen.***



Welcome
So glad you're here...

Holy
Bible

CHILDREN'S SERMON





Reception of New Members
Ben Poquette and Emily Lawrence

Invitation

Introduction

Promises

Welcome

We welcome you with joy into the common life of this church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we work together to build up the body of Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's love. Amen

Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:12-27

The body of Christ has many different parts, just as any other body does. Some of us are Jews, and others are Gentiles. Some of us are slaves, and others are free. But God's Spirit baptized each of us and made us part of the body of Christ. Now we each drink from that same Spirit.

Our bodies don't have just one part. They have many parts. Suppose a foot says, "I'm not a hand, and so I'm not part of the body."

Wouldn't the foot still belong to the body?

Or suppose an ear says, "I'm not an eye, and so I'm not part of the body." Wouldn't the ear still belong to the body?

If our bodies were only an eye, we couldn't hear a thing. And if they were only an ear, we couldn't smell a thing. But God has put all parts of our body together in the way that he decided is best.

A body isn't really a body, unless there is more than one part. It takes many parts to make a single body.

That's why the eyes cannot say they don't need the hands. That's also why the head cannot say it doesn't need the feet.

In fact, we cannot get along without the parts of the body that seem to be the weakest. We take special care to dress up some parts of our bodies. We are modest about our personal parts, but we don't have to be modest about other parts.

God put our bodies together in such a way that even the parts that seem the least important are valuable.

He did this to make all parts of the body work together smoothly, with each part caring about the others.

If one part of our body hurts, we hurt all over. If one part of our body is honored, the whole body will be happy.

Together you are the body of Christ. Each one of you is part of his body.

THE SERMON





Dan Schutte

Here I Am, Lord

OFFICIAL LYRIC VIDEO

Liturgy of Farewell

Greeting *Larry Wigand*

Our church family is constantly changing.

People come and go.

Babies are born.

Children grow up.

People commit themselves to one another.

Loved ones and friends among us come to the end of their lives.

Individuals move into our community and church life.

Others leave us, moving away to new places, new experiences, and new opportunities.

It is important and right that we recognize these times of passage, of endings and beginnings.

Today we share the time of farewell with Pastor Deb who is retiring.

Remembrance and Giving Thanks

Recognition of the End

Rev. Kevin Brown

On Nov 10, 2013 St Paul's UCC called Deb Meyer to serve as Pastor.

Pastor Deb Meyer

I thank St. Paul's, its members and friends, for the love, kindness, and support shown me these last nine years. I ask forgiveness for the mistakes I made. I am grateful for the ways my leadership has been accepted. As I leave I carry all that I have learned here.

Congregation

We receive your thankfulness, offer forgiveness, and accept that you now leave to retire. We express our gratitude for gifts of ministry and your time among us. We ask forgiveness for our mistakes. Your influence on our faith and faithfulness will not leave us at your departure.

Pastor Deb Meyer

I forgive you and accept your gratitude, trusting that our time together and our parting are pleasing to God.

Vows of Release *(All who are able, please stand)*

Rev. Kevin Brown

Do you the members and friends of St. Paul's UCC release Deb Meyer from the duties of Pastor?

Congregation

We do, with the help of God.

Do you offer your encouragement for her ministry as it unfolds in new ways?

Congregation

We do, with the help of God.

Rev. Kevin Brown

Do you, Pastor Deb Meyer, release St. Paul's UCC from turning to you and depending on you?

Pastor Deb Meyer

I do, with the help of God.

Rev. Kevin Brown

Do you offer your encouragement for the continued ministry here and on the relationship with another who will come to serve?

Pastor Deb Meyer

I do, with the help of God.

Witness of the MN Conference UCC

Rev Kevin Brown

On behalf of the Minnesota Conference of the United Church of Christ, I witness to the words spoken: words of thankfulness, forgiveness, and release. The member churches of our conference hold each of you in prayer. We pledge our support in the transitions signified in this service.

Congregation

Thanks be to God.

Prayer

Let us Pray,

Gracious God, whose everlasting love for all is trustworthy, help each of us to trust the future which rests in your care. The time together in your name saw our laughter and tears, our hopes and disappointments.

Guide us as we hold these cherished memories but move in new directions, until that time to come when we are completely one with you and with each other, in the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer - Silent Prayer

The 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 and ever.

Cares Chorus

*I cast all of my cares upon you.
I lay all of my burdens down at your feet.
And any time I don't know what to do,
I will cast all of my cares upon you.*



Invitation

Offertory Music

OFFERING
WE BRING OUR GIFTS TO GOD



Doxology

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.***

**May our hearts be filled with thankfulness
for your many blessings to us. Help us to
be a blessing to others. Amen.**

OFFERING PRAYER

I Was There to Hear your Borneing Cry

I was there to hear
your borneing cry,

I'll be there when you are old.

I rejoiced the day you were baptized,
to see your life unfold.

I was there when you
were but a child,
with a faith to suit you well;
In a blaze of light
you wandered off
to find where demons dwell.

When you heard the
wonder of the Word
I was there to cheer you on;
You were raised to
praise the living Lord,
to whom you now belong.

If you find someone to
share your time
and you join your hearts as one,
I'll be there to make
your verses rhyme
from dusk 'till rising sun.

In the middle ages of your life,
not too old, no longer young,
I'll be there to guide you
through the night,
complete what I've begun.

When the evening
gently closes in,
and you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as
I have always been
with just one more surprise.

I was there to hear
your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day
you were baptized,
to see your life unfold.

A close-up photograph of an olive branch with several green olives and one dark olive. The branch is positioned diagonally across the upper left portion of the frame. The background is a soft, out-of-focus sunset or sunrise scene with warm orange and yellow light transitioning into a cooler blue and purple hue. The overall mood is peaceful and serene.

*Benediction
& Blessing*