

January 28, 2018

*** Dedication of Our Gifts, Time and Talents (In Unison)**

Transforming God, we dedicate our gifts for the health of your creation. May those who receive these gifts be blessed by your love and inspired to give to others so that your creation will continue to be transformed by your love. Amen

GOD'S PEOPLE LEAVE TO SERVE

***Closing Hymn** "We Are Marching to the Light of God" #442 Chalice hymnal

***Benediction**

***Response**

Organ Postlude:

***Congregation:** Please rise in body or in spirit.

“

*If we practice
mindfulness, we always
have a place to be when
we are afraid.*

~ Thich Nhat Hanh ~

”
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UNION CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

January 28, 2018

Sunday Morning Worship

10:00 AM

*Compassion and
kindness towards oneself
are intrinsically woven
into mindfulness.*

Jon Kabat-Zinn

Welcome

in Christ's name to all who are visiting.

We are an Open and Affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ. Please let us know you were here by filling out one of the guest cards provided by the ushers. We are blessed by having you here. May you also be blessed because you worshipped God with us.

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January 28, 2018

10:00 AM

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Music for Quiet Reflection

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude:

DIALOGUE: CALL TO OPENING UP TO WORSHIP

L: What hopes do you bring to worship?

All: We bring hope for health and wholeness.

L: What afflictions do you bring to worship Physical pain?

All: From illness and injury.

L: Emotional pain?

All: From sad and scary life situations.

L: Mental pain?

All: From disease of many kinds.

L: With all of these afflictions, it's a miracle that any of us have made it to worship this morning!

All: But where else would we be? We yearn to know God's powerful love and to know that wholeness is possible.

L: In today's gospel, a person with an "*afflicting spirit*"* interrupts Jesus

All: And Jesus sets the person free.

L: And where does the miracle of this story and our stories begin?

All: When we bring all of who we are--Hopeful, afflicted, bold—into relationship with the Divine.

L: So come; let us enter this sanctuary with our whole selves

All:--Hopeful, afflicted and bold--

L: Come, let us worship!

ALL: WORSHIP

L: Friends in Christ,

*"*Afflicting spirit*" is a term taken from *The Message*, translation of Mark 1: 21-28 by Eugene Petersen

Opening Hymn: "Fairest Lord Jesus" #97 Chalice hymnal

We Open Up To God's Love Through Prayer (In Unison as in one Voice)

O Divine Healer, we confess that sometimes we yearn for you to wave a magic wand on our wounded lives to remove our pain, illness, and suffering. We hear the gospel story of the one seeking healing from Jesus and assume you will perform a similar miracle for all of us – if we just pray hard enough! And we do pray! Open our eyes to recognize the teachings and tools you have given us with which to seek healing in the midst of our afflictions and dis-eases. You whisper to us that wholeness requires self-care and rest; (*what are some ways...?*) You nudge us toward caregivers who can support and advise us; (*who may help us...?*) You breathe into us energy to move and stretch and reach toward health; (*what are some ways...?*) You place in us an urgency to seek justice so that all may enjoy adequate health care; (*what are some actions...?*) Renew our spirits in the midst of our dis-eases and afflicting spirits. Transform us, O Whole-y One, for the health of your creation. Amen.

GOD'S PEOPLE LISTEN

Anthem "This Is The Time For Praise" by Nolan Angerman

A Time for the Child In Us All

(Children leave for Sunday School through the Fellowship Room afterwards)

***Fellowship Hymn:** "Seek Ye First, the Kingdom of God" #354 Chalice hymnal

Scripture Reading: Psalm 111, Mark 1:21-28

L: God is still speaking to us through the Living Word.

P: Thanks be to God.

Sermon "Jesus Teaches Wellness"

Anthem "With Each Passing Moment" by Sandell-Berg & Martin

GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND

Responding in Prayer

Sharing Celebrations & Concerns

Morning Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (using **debts** and **debtors**)

Response

Responding through Giving

Invitation to Giving and Receiving of Gifts

Offertory:

Hymn of Praise: "The Doxology"