

Christ commands his disciples to love their neighbors and in so doing enjoins upon them a way of life wholly determined by an unwavering commitment to the well-being of others. As such, *agape* remains open to the possibility of self-sacrifice for the sake of the neighbor.

Victor McCracken, Emory University, Atlanta, 21st c.

...disciples who do not give themselves priority over others demonstrate the kind of unstinting equity that holds community together. Conflicts arise from neighbors putting their own prerogatives ahead of another's well-being. Neighbors who love another unreservedly follow the law because the law articulates the appropriate relation of one to another.

K. M. Adam Seabury-Western Theological Seminary, Evanston, Illinois, 21st c.

You can trust us to stick to you through thick and thin—to the bitter end. And you can trust us to keep any secret of yours—closer than you yourself keep it. But you cannot trust us to let you face trouble alone, and go off without a word. We are your friends, Frodo. Anyway: there it is.

J.R.R. Tolkien, The Fellowship of the Ring, 20th c.

Prayer Candles: Is there a person or relationship that needs a prayer?

Please come forward and light an individual prayer candle before our worship begins.

Greeting One Another in Peace and Friendship Welcome and Announcements

The Prelude *Fairest Lord Jesus* arr. Dawn Thompson
Rachel Dobbs and Alyssa Urquhart, *Hand Bells*

The Centering Silence

Lighting the Candle of Common Good Erin, Emily and Bailey Ellis
Our church is part of a worldwide community seeking to articulate and reaffirm the common good. We know the Holy Spirit is acting to create this kind of world. Listening and learning are sacred duties in considering the spiritual, social and relational needs of others. May we be attentive to seeing and discerning what the presence of God is doing and to follow it and add to it without fear.
The CUF Worship Team

The Introit *Come Thou, Almighty King*
Felice de Giardini, arr. Martha Lynn Thompson
Bodwell Memorial Hand Bell Choir; Rachel Dobbs, *Director*

* **The Gathering Hymn** *Give Thanks for Life* # 649

* **The Call to Worship** Joanne Friday and Chan Lac Thi

L: May each of us who wants peace on earth

P: Make a commitment to transform the anger, hatred and violence in our own hearts.

L: May each of us who wants a world without conflict

P: Make a commitment to resolve in our own lives all conflicts however small.

L: May each of us who wants peace on earth and every child to be safe and happy

P: Make a commitment to help those parents we know to be struggling.

L: May each of us who wants peace on earth

P: Make a commitment to work for justice—without justice for all, there cannot be true peace for any.

L: May each of us who wants peace on earth

P: Make a commitment to do our best to relieve suffering wherever we find it.

L: May each of us who yearns for peace

P: Make a commitment to expand our capacity for love, compassion and understanding for ourselves, each other and the planet.

L: May each of us who wants to live in peace

P: Awaken to the interdependent nature of all that is and realize that happiness is not an individual matter. May all beings truly BE peace, so that the awakened beloved community can become a reality on earth. Amen.

The Gathering Prayer (unison) *God's Love for All People* # 682

The Anthem Theme from *Finlandia* Jean Sibelius, arr. Sharon Elery Rogers
Bodwell Memorial Hand Bell Choir; Rachel Dobbs, *Director*

Time for the Child in Each of Us

Sing Our Children to Sunday School (seated) *Go Now In Peace* #437(twice)

Go now in peace, go now in peace, may the love of God surround you everywhere, everywhere you may go.

The Prayer Hymn (seated) *Come Down, O Love Divine* # 582

The Silent Prayer and Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (unison) *Parker J. Palmer, American, Center for Courage & Renewal*

Heavenly Father, heavenly Mother,
Holy and blessed is your true name.

We pray for your reign of peace to come,
we pray that your good will be done, let heaven and earth become one.

Give us this day the bread we need, give it to those who have none.

Let forgiveness flow like a river among us, from each one to each one.

Lead us to holy innocence beyond the evil of our days.

Come swiftly Mother, Father, come.

For yours is the power and the glory and the mercy.

Forever your name is All in One. Amen.

The Congregational Response # 306

**Hear our prayer, O Lord. Hear our prayer, O Lord.
Incline thine ear to us, and grant us thy peace. Amen.**

The Offering Prayer of Dedication (unison) Karl Barth, 20th c.

Grace always demands the answer of gratitude.

Grace and gratitude belong together like heaven and earth.

Grace evokes gratitude like the voice of an echo.

Gratitude follows grace like thunder follows lightning.

The Offering and The Offertory *Chapel in the Wood* Walter R. Clarke
Clayton W. Smith

* **The Doxology** # 49

**From all that dwell below the skies let the Creator's praise arise:
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Let the Redeemer's name be sung through every land, in every tongue.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

The Stewardship Message Kathy Barry, *Church Treasurer*
Brian McGill, *President, Board of Trustees*

The Gospel Reading *Mark 12:28-34* Alma Homola, *Liturgist*

The Sermon *One and the Same* Reverend Grenfell

* **The Parting Hymn** *To Us All, to Every Nation* # 634, vs 1 and 3

* **The Benediction**

***The Choral Benediction** # 18

**Proclaim again that God is good,
whose mercy is forever sure,
whose truth at all times firmly stood,
and shall from age to age endure.**

* **The Postlude** *Postludium In F* Chester Nordman
Clayton W. Smith



November Plate Offering

Marked gifts (check or envelope)

PLEDGE:

Your week/month/annual commitment to the life of our church.

THANKSGIVING BASKETS

The CUF Social Justice Team will again be delivering Thanksgiving Baskets to needy families in our area on the afternoon of Sunday, November 18th.

The Baskets will include a Thanksgiving dinner and will be supplemented with extra food. So **please consider bringing food donations to church on Sunday November 18th.**

Peanut butter, canned soup, tuna fish, pasta, tomato sauce, cheese, crackers, rice, etc. will be added to the Baskets. If more convenient, **items may be dropped off earlier at the Church Office.**

Our November plate offerings cover the cost of the Baskets each year. Please place checks or cash envelopes in the Offering Plate marked "Thanksgiving Baskets".

**Please make checks payable to
The Church of Universal Fellowship.**

**Memo your check or
mark your envelope:**

Pledge

or

Thanksgiving Baskets

Please put your name on envelopes.