

The temple bell stops, but I still hear the sound coming out of the flowers.

*Basho, Japanese poet, 17<sup>th</sup> c.*

Your beliefs become your thoughts,  
Your thoughts become your words,  
Your words become your actions,  
Your actions become your habits,  
Your habits become your values,  
Your values become your destiny.

*Mahatma Gandhi, 20<sup>th</sup> c.*

I wish I could show you, when you are lonely or in darkness, the astonishing Light of your own Being.

*Hafiz, Sufi poet, Iran, 14<sup>th</sup> c.*

Flowers have an expression of countenance as much as men or animals. Some seem to smile; some have a sad expression; some are pensive and diffident; others again are plain, honest and upright, like the broad-faced sunflower and the hollyhock.

*Henry Ward Beecher, American clergyman and abolitionist, 19<sup>th</sup> c.*

Bread feeds the body, indeed, but flowers feed also the soul.

*The Quran, 7<sup>th</sup> c.*

**Flowers! Please bring your flower(s) forward and place in one of the vases at the front of the sanctuary. If you need assistance, ask a child to help!**

### Greeting One Another in Peace and Friendship Welcome and Announcements

#### The Prelude

*Jesus Loves Me*

William Bradbury, arr. Mike Magatagan

CUF's Young Ringers and Middle Ringers; Rachel Dobbs, *Director*

#### The Centering Silence

#### \* The Gathering Hymn

*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

# 2

#### \* The Call to Worship

from *Psalms* 92

L: O God, our children open their lives to you;

P: **they portray the wonder and beauty of your spirit;**

L: they are like springs of water in a parched world;

P: **they flourish even when amid distortions and ugliness around them;**

L: their lives are rich and productive.

P: **Help us to show you, O God, this morning and always**

**that we take joy in our young people**

**and that you are here in our midst taking joy with us!**

#### The Gathering Prayer

*Caring for the Earth*

# 694

#### The Anthem (insert)

*A Dazzling Bouquet*

Bret Hesla

Young Voices and Congregation

### The Celebration of Our Children and Youth Programs

Sarah Marx, *Director of Children and Youth Ministries*

CUF Teachers and Nurturers

Bible Blessing and YAWPer status for Nora Powers

Welcoming Sonja Birthisel and Avinash Rude as YAWP Leaders

Congratulations and Blessing to Katie King and Eli McGill

Thank you to Cami Carter and Sam Kunz,

*our CUF YAWP Leaders for 11 years!*

### The Message to Our Children

*“When and where do you find God?”*

Brett Ellis – *CUF Choir and Hand Bell Choir “ringer”*

Sonja Birthisel – *CUF Trustee and new YAWP Leader*

Marquita Hill – *Missionary to Malawi*

#### The Offering Prayer of Dedication (*unison*)

**Walk among us, God of Peace. Help our church to find the joy that comes through involvement and sharing, so that we participate in the changes taking place in the world and are a part of making all persons free. Amen.**

#### The Offering and Offertory

*Come, Come Ye Children of God*

Purcell

#### \* The Doxology

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts! Heav'n and earth are full of thee!**

**Heav'n and earth are praising thee, O God most high!**

# 51

#### The Reading

*Summer Day*

by Mary Oliver

### The Flower Communion

#### The Garden Song (*insert*)

David Mallett

CUF Young Voices and Congregation

#### The Consecration of the Flowers (*unison*)

**Infinite Spirit of Life, we ask thy blessing on these, thy messengers of fellowship and love. May they remind us, amid diversities of knowledge and gifts, to be one in desire and affection and devotion to thy holy will. May they also remind us of the value of companionship, of doing and sharing alike. May we cherish friendship as one of thy most precious gifts. May we not let awareness of another's talents discourage us, or sully our relationship, but may we realize that, whatever we can do, great or small, the efforts of all of us are needed to do thy work in this world. Amen.**

#### The Flower Communion

*Please come forward quietly and reverently with a sense of how important it is for each of us to address our world and one another with gentleness, justice and love. Select and take a flower—a different flower from the one you brought—that particularly appeals to you.*

*As you take your chosen flower—noting its particular shape and beauty—please remember to handle it carefully. It is a gift someone else has brought to you. It represents that person's unique humanity, and therefore deserves your kindest touch. Let us share quietly in this ritual of oneness and love.*

*We will let our children get a flower first and then return to sit with their parents.*

#### \* The Parting Hymn

*For Beauty of Meadows*

# 696

#### \* The Benediction

#### \* The Choral Benediction

# 684, vs 3

**God calls humanity to join as partners in creating**

**a future free from want and fear, life's goodness celebrating.**

**That new world beckons from afar, invites our shared endeavor,**

**that all may have abundant life and peace endure forever.**

#### \* The Postlude

*Praise to the Lord*

Broughton

### Today's Plate Offering

marked gifts

**PLEDGE or**

**Orono to Africa**

***Please help recovery efforts from Cyclone Idai.***

### Malawi

### Support for Women, Children, and Sustainability Projects

This area, too, suffered from Cyclone Idai in March. Marquita Hill, wife of John Hassler, a former CUF choir member, has traveled to **Malawi** – one of the poorest countries in the world—for many years using her own funds and church donations. Her efforts to help improve conditions in Malawi include: opening and supporting YWCA programs, adult literacy and health education classes, microloan programs, the building of “rocket stoves” and drinking water wells, planting trees, planned parenthood and much more. Our church continues to help in all these endeavors!

### Mozambique

### Medical Education Assistance

Former Orono school nurse Emily Wesson and her husband Dr. Peter Millard mentor and financially support medical students in Beria, **Mozambique**. One of these students is Bigiruhiriwe Rehnovat (Big). Big and his family are refugees and the area has just suffered through a tremendous cyclone disaster. Our church has helped Big through his medical education, and he is beginning his residency.

**Along with your ticket support for CUF's**

**Annual Church Picnic NEXT SUNDAY**

**please make checks payable to:**

**The Church of Universal Fellowship.**

**Memo your check or mark your**

**envelope:**

**Pledge or Orono to Africa**

*(unmarked gifts will support Open Doors)*

### April Benevolences:

Partners for Peace \$243

Bangor Area Homeless Shelter \$190

Thank You!