



**DOUGLAS UCC**  
A JUST WORLD FOR ALL

**Order of Service for Sunday, May 26, 2024**

## **First Sunday after Pentecost**

“*Modernism* often embraced grand narratives and a belief in progress, rationality, and the possibility of achieving universal truths. It aimed for purity, simplicity, and clarity in art, literature, and design. *Postmodernism* rejects grand narratives and the idea of a single, objective truth. It embraces ambiguity, pluralism, and the notion that truth is relative and context-dependent. Postmodernism often plays with multiple perspectives and interpretations.  
–Gustavo Paniagua, Slidebean

### **Thank you for joining us today.**

For Announcements, Birthdays, Anniversaries, and Prayer List, [visit this week's E-Pistle here](#), where you can also subscribe to receive it by email, if you like.

**\*- stand if you wish to, and are comfortable.**

**Congregational Responses in Bold**

### **Ringling in the Hour & Lighting of Altar Candles**

### **Welcome and Announcements**

#### **Introit**

*Surely the Presence*

***Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.  
I can feel God's mighty power and God's grace.  
I can feel the brush of angel's wings, I see glory on each face.  
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.***

## **Call to Worship**

*adapted from enfleshed.com*

Reader: Michael Valdez

One: The Spirit of the Living God is welcome in this place!

***Many: Come, Spirit of God; be with us!***

One: This One raises the sun each morning.

***Many: Though we stumble, God lifts us.***

One: This One lifts high the moon at night.

***Many: Though we doubt, God remains.***

One: This One ushers us too, through cycles of rising, falling, and rising again.

***Many: Though we get weary, God revives.***

## **\*Opening Hymn**

*Come to Us*

(Green Gather Hymnal #743)

## **Unison Prayer**

*Adapted from the classic Camino walk blessing*

***O God, you protected your servant Abraham on his pilgrimages; and you guided the Hebrew people across the desert. We ask that you watch over us, your servants, as we pilgrimage through life. Be our companion in walking, wayfinder at crossroads, second wind in weariness, defense from danger, lodging on the path, cover in the cold, shade from the heat, light in the darkness, consolation in sadness, and firmness in purpose. With your guidance, may we arrive unscathed at the end of the path, enriched with grace and virtue. May we come unharmed at the end of the path, filled with joy. Amen.***

## **Assurance of Grace and Peace**

One: Peace be with you.

***Many: And also with you.***

One: Let us offer one another a sign of Peace.

## **Passing the Peace**

*Peace I Leave With You*

***Peace I leave with you; my peace I give unto you.  
Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.  
Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you.  
Not as the world gives, I give my peace to you.  
Not as the world gives, I give my peace to you.***

## **Words of Integration & Guidance**

**Eugene Peterson, white, male, theologian, educator**

The essential meaning of exile (liminal space) is that we are where we don't want to be. We are separated from home. It is an experience of dislocation, everything is out of joint, nothing fits together. Life is ripped out of the familiar soil of generations of language, habit, weather, story-telling... It is not home. But this very strangeness can open up a new reality to us. An accident, a tragedy, a disaster of any kind can force the realization that the world is not predictable, that reality is far more extensive than our habitual perception of it. With the pain and in the midst of alienation a sense of freedom can occur.

## **Connections: Memorial Weekend**

### **The Words of Holy Scripture**

A Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures **Jeremiah 29:1-7** (adapted)

**One:** Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**All:** Thanks be to God.

### **The Christian Scriptures**

**One:** A reading from the Christian Scriptures, **II Corinthians 8 & 9** (adapted)

**All:** **Glory to you, O Christ.**

**One:** Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**All:** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **Homily**

*Nesting Dolls and Butterflies*

**Rev. Jody Betten**

### **Offering & Offertory**

*Forever Light Will Shine*

*(Alan Doyle)*

**Jeff Spangler and Lauri  
Donaldson**

### **Joys & Concerns/ Tibetan Prayer Bell**

**One:** Thanks be to God! **All:** Alleluia!

**One:** O God, **All:** Hear our prayer.

## **\*Doxology**

*Give Thanks to the Lord*

***Give thanks to the Lord for God is good, and God's mercy shall endure,  
For God alone has done marv'lous things, give thanks unto the Lord.  
God made the earth and heaven with a strong and mighty hand.  
God has moved us to sing, proclaim this song! Give thanks unto our God.  
(please be seated)***

## **Celebration of Holy Communion**

One: God be with you.

Many: ***And also with you.***

One: Lift up your hearts.

Many: ***We lift them up to God.***

One: Let us give thanks to God.

Many: ***It is good to give God thanks & praise***

## **Creation's Praise**

*Holy, Holy, Holy Lord*

***Holy, holy, Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.***

***Heaven and earth are full of your glo-o-ry.***

***Ho-oh-oh-san-na in the high-est.***

***Blessed the One who comes in the na - me of the Lord, in the name of our God.***

***Ho-oh-oh-sanna in the high - est, Ho-oh-oh-sanna in the highest.***

## **Breaking of the Bread**

*The Body of Christ*

***This is the body of Christ, broken that we may be whole;***

***this cup, as promised by God, true to God's word, cradles our Lord;***

***Food for the good of the soul.***

## **Sharing of the Bread & Cup**

(gluten-free option, non-alcoholic juice in trays)

The Bread of Life, the Gift of Heaven. **Amen.**

The Cup of Love, the Drink of Compassion. **Amen.**

These are the gifts of God for you today!

## **Prayer of Thanksgiving & The Lord's Prayer (based on a translation from Aramaic)**

Breathing Life, your Name shines everywhere! Release a space to plant your Presence here. Imagine your possibilities now. Embody your desire in every light and form. Grow through us this moment's bread and wisdom. Untie the knots of failure binding us, as we release the strands we hold of others' faults. Help us not forget our Source, yet free us from not being in the Present. From you arises every vision, power and song from gathering to gathering. Amen - May our future actions grow from here!

**\*Hymn of Sending**  
*on Earth*

*Let There Be Peace*  
(Green Gather Hymnal #731)

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude**

*Song For the Fallen*  
**Peter Black and Lauri Donaldson**

Keep up with the Douglas UCC community  
and the work of our service groups here:

[www.douglasucc.org](http://www.douglasucc.org)

<https://www.youtube.com/douglasucc>

<https://www.facebook.com/douglasucc>

<https://www.instagram.com/douglasucc>

## Come to Us 743



1. Come to me, come to us, you who are bur-dened.
2. Come to me, come to us, pil - grim or stran - ger,
3. Come to me, come to us, bro - ken or build - ing,



Come to the word, and come to the meal.  
look - ing for change, or chal - lenge, or light.  
Come with your chil-dren, your choic - es, your chains.




Come with-out ques - tion or pres - sure or price:  
We are the peo - ple whose call - ing is care,  
All are in - vit - ed to friend-ship or rest, to




Come, be em - braced by the bod - y of Christ.  
bear - ers of mer - cy, nour-ished in prayer.  
share in our strug-ple, our call and our quest.




## 731 Let There Be Peace on Earth




Let there be peace on earth, and let it be - gin with me.




Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be. With




God as our Fa-ther, broth - ers  
fam - 'ly all are we.




Let me walk with my broth-er in per-fect har-mo - ny.  
us each oth - er




Let peace be - gin with me; let this be the mo-ment now.



With ev - 'ry step I take, let this be my sol-emn vow; To



take each mo-ment, and live each mo-ment in peace e - ter-nal - ly!



Let there be peace on earth, and let it be - gin with me.

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