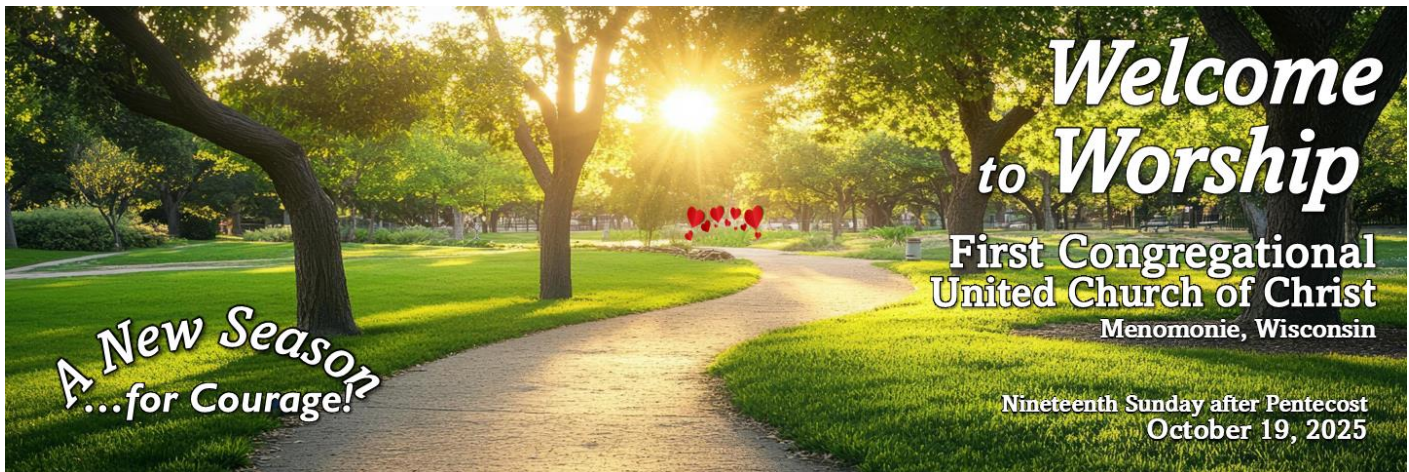




Welcome and Announcements

Prelude/Candle Lighting

"Prelude on Dundee"
(arr. G. Krapf)

Deanna Schultz

Ringling of the Bell

***Call to Worship** (*Stand if you are able)

Leader: Faith is a place of mystery, where we find the courage

All: to believe in what we cannot see and the strength to let go of our fear of uncertainty.

Leader: Courage starts

All: with showing up and letting ourselves be seen.

Leader: Vulnerability sounds like truth and feels like courage.

All: Truth and courage aren't always comfortable, but they're never weakness.

Leader: God, guide us to be brave and courageous

All: as we live and love as Jesus did.

***Opening Prayer** (in unison)

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ. Amen.

***Opening Hymn**

"All Beautiful the March of Days"

Hymnal #292

Readings

Psalm 121,

Luke 18:1-8,

"Touched by an Angel" by Maya Angelou

Sally Conklin

Anthem

"Autumn Carol"
(R. Schulz-Widmar)

Chancel Choir, Bell Choir

Sermon	"A New Season... for Courage"	Pastor René Mehlberg
Transitional Music	"My Life Flows on in Endless Song"	attached
Prayers of the People		

Lord's Prayer

Our Mother, 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. Amen

Offertory	"Together for Tomorrow"	Sally Conklin
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***Doxology**

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

***Prayer of Dedication (in unison)**

Generous One, for the blessings and bounty you have given us, we give back to you to help the lost, the hungry, the hurting, the forsaken. Guide us in stewarding these gifts for all your creation and your children to experience care, connection, community, and love. Amen.

*Closing Hymn	"Lead On Eternal Sovereign"	attached
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***Benediction**

***Sung Benediction (unison)**

**God be with you till we meet again;
Loving counsels guide, uphold you,
With a Shepherd's care enfold you:
God be with you till we meet again.**

Postlude	"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name" (arr. O. Holden)	Deanna Schultz
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The flowers today are from Margi Stauss and Marilyn Dehnert in memory of their mom Christine Tschudy's birthday and in honor of Oxana's recital.

Credits

- Opening Prayer: *Prayer of Good Courage* from the Evangelical Lutheran Worship. Minneapolis, Minn: page 304.
- Call to Worship includes quotes from Brené Brown's books: **The Gifts of Imperfection** and **Daring Greatly: How the Courage to Be Vulnerable Transforms the Way We Live, Love, Parent, and Lead.**
- Fox, Alexa, ed. "'Touched by an Angel' by Maya Angelou." The Contemporary Poem, January 29, 2017.
<https://cpoem.sunygeneseoenglish.org/2017/01/29/touched-by-an-angel-by-maya-angelou/>.
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This Week

Tuesday, October 21: 11:30am Church Council, R1; **1:30pm** Website Committee;
4pm Early Service Planning, R1; **5:30pm** Tech Committee, R1

Wednesday, October 22: 10am: Women in Good Company, FH

Wednesday, October 22: 4pm Kid's Club; **5:30pm** Chancel Choir; **6:30pm** Bell Choir

Thursday, October 23: 9am-12pm: Tour of Homes crafts, R1

Thursday, October 23: Church Directory Photography Sessions, according to schedule

Friday, October 24: Church Directory Photography Sessions, according to schedule

Saturday, October 25: Church Directory Photography Sessions according to schedule

Link to the full church calendar: <https://www.menomonieucc.org/monthlycalendar>

Mission Statement of First Congregational United Church of Christ in Menomonie, WI

We are called together:

To celebrate God's presence.

To help each person to grow in his or her relationship with God;

To create a welcoming and supportive community of all God's people, affirming the diversity of race, gender, age, sexual orientation, gender expression, and identity, social and economic status, and the differently abled;

To observe and share life's passages and our faith traditions;

To reach out in love seeking justice and peace;

And to tell the old story of Jesus and His love.

Land Acknowledgement

Here we congregate on Ojibwe, Dakota, Menominee, Potawatomi, and Ho Chunk land. Generations of Indigenous people occupied and provided careful stewardship of this land long before Europeans arrived on these shores. The traumatic dispossession of this land by European immigrants and the displacement of countless individuals produced collective suffering that has repercussions for our Indigenous neighbors today. The original inhabitants of this land—known to some Indigenous peoples as Turtle Island—took seriously the Creator's call to be stewards of air, land, water, and creatures. With gratitude, we acknowledge the lessons we continue to learn from our Indigenous neighbors as we seek to be good stewards and pray for guidance in learning how to make reparations.

ONA Covenant

We covenant as a congregation to welcome, celebrate, and include lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning people and their families into the full life of our church. We take this stance publicly and proudly, knowing that silence is inadequate to confront the violent theology that is widespread throughout the Christian church. We covenant to support lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning people and their families with our prayers, words, and actions.

English folk melody

Frances Whitmarsh Wile, 1911; alt.

Arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

1. All beau - ti - ful the march of days, As sea - sons come and go;
 2. O'er white ex - pans - es spar - kling pure The ra - diant morns un - fold;
 3. O Thou from whose un - fath - omed law The year in beau - ty flows,

The hand that shaped the rose hath wrought The crys - tal of the snow;
 The sol - emn splen - dors of the night Burn bright - er through the cold;
 Thy - self the vi - sion pass - ing by In crys - tal and in rose,

Hath sent the hoar - y frost of heaven, The flow - ing wa - ters sealed,
 Life mounts in ev - ery throb - bing vein, Love deep - ens round the hearth,
 Day un - to day doth ut - ter speech, And night to night pro - claim,

And laid a si - lent love - li - ness On hill and wood and field.
 And clear - er sounds the an - gel hymn, "Good will to all on earth."
 In ev - er - chang - ing words of light, The won - der of Thy name.

This tune in a lower key, 414

Text: Copyright © 1912. Used by permission of Dorothy M. W. Bean.

Music: Arrangement from the *English Hymnal*, 1906. Used by permission of Oxford University Press.

My Life Flows on in Endless Song

(How Can I Keep from Singing)

Ps. 46:1-7; 1 Cor. 3:21-23; 2 Cor. 5:17

Anon. in Bright Jewels for the Sunday School,
ed. Robert Lowry, 1869; alt.
St. 3, Doris Plenn, c. 1957

1 My life flows on in end - less song; a - bove earth's lam - en -
 2 What though my joys and com - forts die? My Sav - ior still is
 3 When ty - rants trem - ble, sick with fear, and hear their death knells
 4 I lift my eyes; the cloud grows thin; I see the blue a -

ta - tion, I hear the sweet, though far - off hymn that
 liv - ing. What though the shad - ows gath - er 'round? A
 ring - ing; When friends re - joice both far and near, how
 bove it; And day by day this path - way smooths, since

hails a new cre - a - tion. Through all the tu - mult
 new song Christ is giv - ing. No storm can shake my
 can I keep from sing - ing? In pris - on cell and
 first I learned to love it. The peace of Christ makes

and the strife, I hear the mu - sic ring - ing; It
 in - most calm, while to that Rock I'm cling - ing; Since
 dun - geon vile our thoughts to them are wing - ing; When
 fresh my heart, a foun - tain ev - er spring - ing; All

finds an ech - o in my soul— how can I keep from sing - ing?
 Love com - mands both heaven and earth, how can I keep from sing - ing?
 friends by shame are un - de - filed, how can I keep from sing - ing?
 things are mine since I am Christ's— how can I keep from sing - ing?

Lead On Eternal Sovereign

Ernest W. Shurtleff, 1887; alt.


1 Lead on e - ter - nal Sov - ereign, we fol - low in your way;
 2 Lead on e - ter - nal Sov - ereign, we fol - low not with fear,
 3 Lead on e - ter - nal Sov - ereign, till sin's fierce war shall cease,



loud rings your cry for jus - tice, your call for peace this day:
 for in each hu - man con - flict your words of strength we hear:
 and all your saints to - geth - er will sing a hymn of peace;



Through prayer-ful prep - a - ra - tion, your grace will make us strong,
 That when we serve with glad - ness, you will not let us fall,
 Then all in your do - min - ion will live with hearts set free,



to car - ry on the strug - gle to tri - umph o - ver wrong.
 our trust is in your prom - ise that love will con - quer all.
 to love and serve each oth - er for all e - ter - ni - ty.

At Andover Seminary, fellow students asked Ernest W. Shurtleff to write a hymn for their graduation. This is the result. Shurtleff became a Congregational minister and in his last years established churches in Europe and did relief work during World War I.

Tune: LANCASHIRE 7.6.7.6.D.
Henry T. Smart, 1836