



Welcome and Announcements

Prelude/Candle Lighting

"Menuet in G major"
(G. Handel)

Oxana Khramova

Ringling of the Bell

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

Leader: Sometimes we think we know what happened,

All: only for someone to share more information.

Leader: Remember: There is no single story of history,

All: as there are even two creation stories in the Bible.

Leader: Open us to face the many viewpoints of history

All: and not resist the viewpoints new to us.

*Opening Prayer (in unison)

God, you have witnessed all of history, from creation until now. You know there are multiple stories, and too many of them are hidden, deleted, or denied. Open us for continual learning, especially of stories, realities, and truths of the people and voices too often silenced for our empathy and loving can grow even more. Amen.

*Opening Hymn

"For the Faithful Who Have Answered"

attached

Readings

Jon Blomquist

Galatians 5:13-18

Luke 9:51-62

Excerpt from "Together, You Can Redeem the Soul of Our Nation" by John Lewis

Special Music

"Plaid Valley Dreaming"
(Isaiah May)

Isaiah May

Sermon

"Facing History as Resistance"

Pastor René Mehlberg

Transitional Music

"We Shall Overcome"

SoF #152

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, 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

"Comme il faut"
(E. Arolas, arr. J. Cohen)

Isaiah May and Dean Langby

*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)

Gracious God, we give you our gifts as symbols of our lives. Receive them with love, bless them with grace, and use them according to your will. Anoint us with your Spirit, give us the language of grace, and send us into the world aflame with your love, for the sake of blessing your world. Amen.

*Closing Hymn

"We Give Thee but Thine Own"

Hymnal #428

*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

"Redeemed"
(N. Cowart and M. Weaver, arr. C. Tornquist)

Oxana Khramova

*The flowers today are in celebration of Sherry and Larry Galetka's 52nd wedding anniversary on June 30th.
Congratulations!*

Credits

- Call to Worship and Opening Prayer inspired by *Living Resistance: An Indigenous Vision for Seeking Wholeness Every Day* by Kaitlin B. Curtice, Grand Rapids, MI; Brazos Press 2023.
- John Lewis, "Together, You Can Redeem the Soul of Our Nation," American's Black Holocaust Museum, June 23, 2025, <https://www.abhmuseum.org/together-you-can-redeem-the-soul-of-our-nation/>
- Prayer of Dedication adapted from "Unfolding Light: Daily Reflections and Worship Resources" by Steve Garnaas Holmes; <https://unfoldinglight.net/2022/05/15/pentecost-june-5/>; used with permission.
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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.

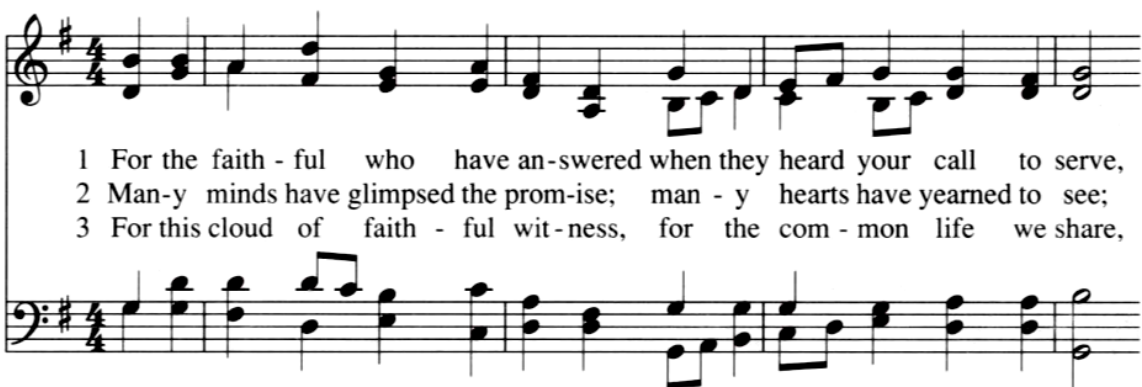
ONA Covenant

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.

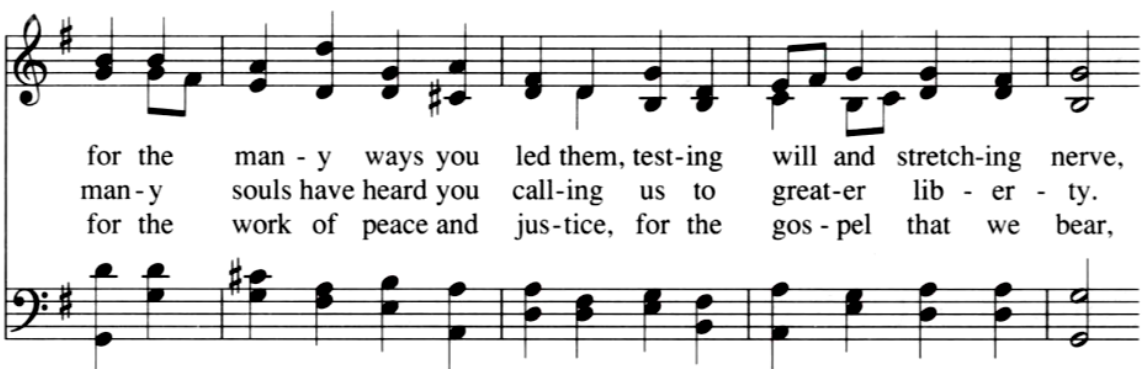
For the Faithful Who Have Answered

Heb. 11:4–12:2

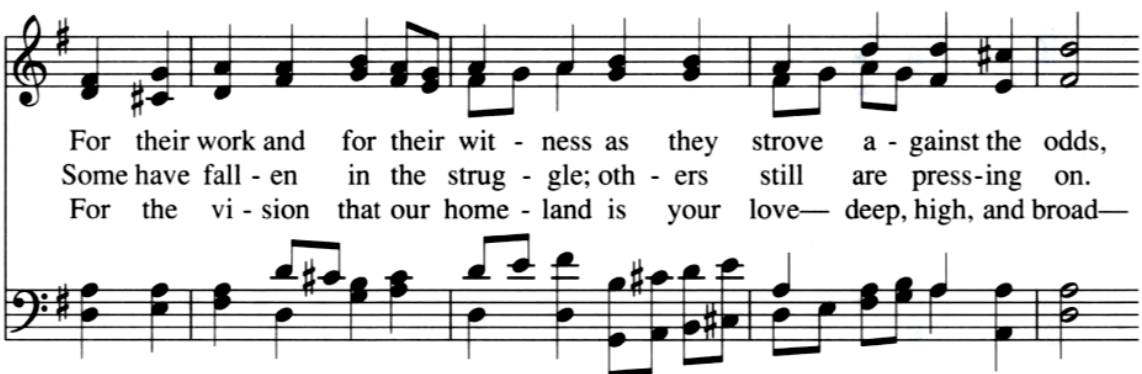
Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1986; alt.



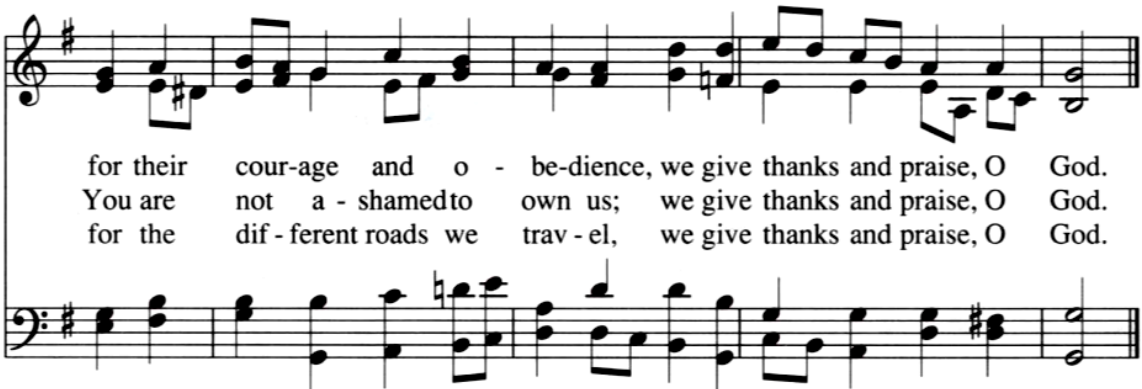
1 For the faith - ful who have an - swered when they heard your call to serve,
 2 Man - y minds have glimpsed the prom - ise; man - y hearts have yearned to see;
 3 For this cloud of faith - ful wit - ness, for the com - mon life we share,



for the man - y ways you led them, test - ing will and stretch - ing nerve,
 man - y souls have heard you call - ing us to great - er lib - er - ty.
 for the work of peace and jus - tice, for the gos - pel that we bear,



For their work and for their wit - ness as they strove a - gainst the odds,
 Some have fall - en in the strug - gle; oth - ers still are press - ing on.
 For the vi - sion that our home - land is your love— deep, high, and broad—



for their cour - age and o - be - dience, we give thanks and praise, O God.
 You are not a - shamed to own us; we give thanks and praise, O God.
 for the dif - ferent roads we trav - el, we give thanks and praise, O God.

In commissioning a hymn for the fiftieth anniversary of women's ordination in 1986, the United Church of Canada specified that it should concentrate on all people's faithful response to God's call. Sylvia Dunstan selected Hebrews 11 and 12 as her primary reference.

Tune: OMNI DIE 8.7.8.7.D.
 German melody, 1625
 Trier Gesangbuch, 1695

We Shall Overcome

Chords: C, F, C, F, C

1 We shall o - ver - come, we shall o - ver - come,
 2 We'll walk hand in hand, we'll walk hand in hand,
 3 We shall live in peace, we shall live in peace,

Chords: C, Am, E, Am, D, G, D, G, G7, C/E, F

we shall o - ver - come some-day!
 we'll walk hand in hand some-day!
 we shall live in peace some-day!

Refrain
 Oh, deep in my

Chords: C, F, C, G#dim7, Am, Fm6, C, C7, F, Fm6, C/G, G, C

heart I do be - lieve that we shall o - ver - come some - day!

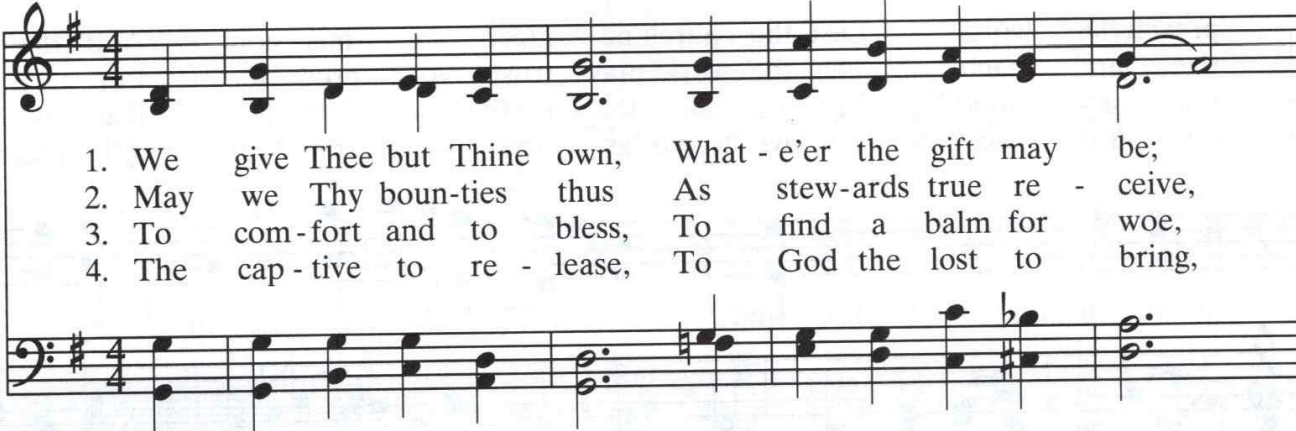
We Give Thee but Thine Own

428

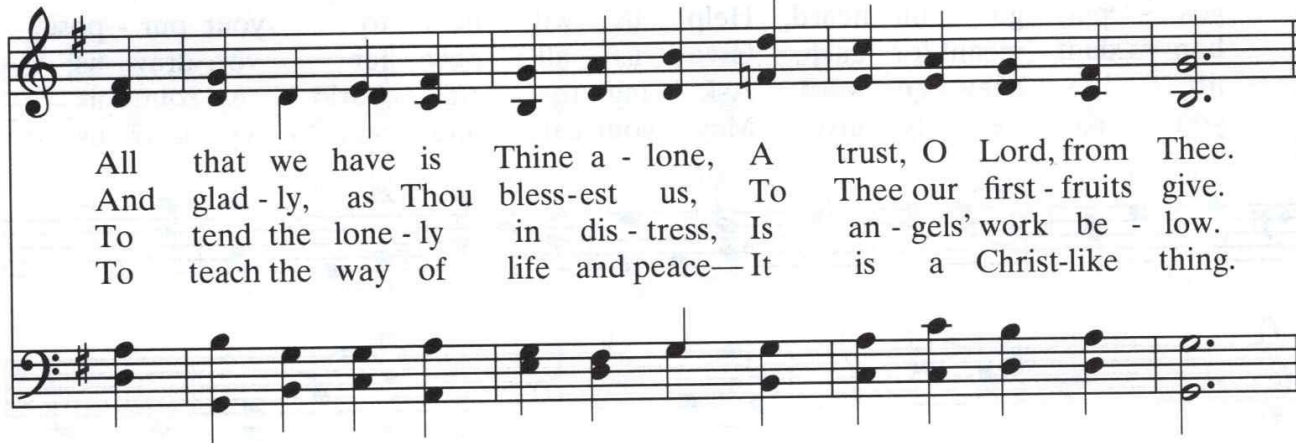
SCHUMANN SM

William Walsham How, c. 1858

Mason and Webb's *Cantica Laudis*, 1850



1. We give Thee but Thine own, What - e'er the gift may be;
2. May we Thy boun-ties thus As stew-ards true re - ceive,
3. To com-fort and to bless, To find a balm for woe,
4. The cap-tive to re - lease, To God the lost to bring,



All that we have is Thine a - lone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.
And glad - ly, as Thou bless-est us, To Thee our first - fruits give.
To tend the lone - ly in dis - tress, Is an - gels' work be - low.
To teach the way of life and peace—It is a Christ-like thing.

5. And we believe Thy Word,
Though dim our faith may be;
Whate'er for Thine we do, O Lord,
We do it unto Thee.