



## Welcome and Announcements

**Prelude/Candle Lighting**

"Sonata for Sunday"  
(D. Scarlatti)

RuthAnn Ledgerwood

## Ringling of the Bell

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

Leader: Our family and friends are kin,

**All: as well as the animals and plants.**

Leader: Let's remember: God created heavens and earth, plants and animals

**All: before humans were finally made.**

Leader: Expand our understanding of all who or what is kin to us

**All: as we all inhabit God's precious earth together.**

**\*Opening Prayer** (in unison)

**O Holy Creator, we often think of kin as only humans, forgetting all the kin Mother Earth holds dear that we should as well. Open our eyes to see and hearts to love the full expansiveness of Your kin just as you do. Amen.**

**\*Opening Hymn**

"They Asked, 'Who's My Neighbor?'"

attached

**Readings**

Deb Benoit

Amos 7:7-9;

Luke 10:25-37

A Story from the Aztec People of Mexico from "*Turning to one Another: Simple Conversations to Restore Hope to the Future*" by Margaret J. Wheatley

**Special Music**

"Dear Hate"  
(M. Morris)

Katelyn Halama

**Sermon**

"Kinship as Resistance"

Pastor René Mehlberg

**Transitional Music**

"Blessed Be the Tie That Binds"

attached

**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

"Offertory"  
(N. Cast)

Katelyn Halama

## \*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)

Loving One, we give you our gifts as symbols of our lives and in love for you and one another. May these gifts be used for the common good so all your children, near and far, experience connection, belonging, community, and dignity. Amen.

## \*Closing Hymn

"We are Marching"

SoF #120

## \*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

"How Firm a Foundation"  
(arr. C. Berry)

RuthAnn Ledgerwood

*The flowers are from Kathy Colvin celebrating her daughter Valerie Mentor's 50th birthday.*

## 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.
- Margaret J. Wheatley, Turning to one Another: Simple Conversations to Restore Hope to the Future (San Francisco, CA: Berrett-Koehler Publishers, Inc., 2002), 158.
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## This Week

**Monday, July 14, 10am:** Tour of Homes, R1

**Tuesday, July 15, 11am-1pm:** Church Council, R1

**Wednesday, July 16, 9-11am:** Thursday's Table, R1

**Thursday, July 17, 1-3pm:** Planned Giving, R1

**Thursday, July 17, 9am-12pm:** ArtzGirlz, Dawn Ascher's home

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.

# They Asked, "Who's My Neighbor?"

541

Jan Wesson, 1981; alt.

Luke 10:29-37

Unison F Dm Am Gm

1 They asked, "Who's my neigh - bor and whom should I love; for  
 2 There once was a trav - el - er set on by thieves who  
 3 A cer - tain Sa - mar - i - tan then came a - long to  
 4 I know who's my neigh - bor and whom I should love, for

F/C Dm C C7 F C

whom should I do a good deed?" Then Je - sus re - lat - ed a  
 beat him and left him to die; A priest and a Le - vite each  
 bind up his wounds and give aid; He took him to stay at an  
 whom I should do a good deed; For Je - sus made clear in the

F Am Gm/Bb F/C C7

sto - ry and said, "It's an - y - one who has a  
 saw him in pain; but they turned a - way and walked  
 inn un - til well, and for all the ser - vice he  
 sto - ry he told, it's an - y - one who has a

Dm Bb F/C C7 F

need, yes, an - y - one who has a need."  
 by, yes, they turned a - way and walked by.  
 paid, yes, for all the ser - vice he paid.  
 need, yes, an - y - one who has a need.

Ruth Janelle (Jan) Wesson wrote this hymn for the dedication of her church in Nashville, Tennessee, and was encouraged to submit it to a Hymn Society competition. It was published at the society's national conference in 1982.

Tune: NEIGHBOR 11.8.11.8.8.

Jan Wesson, 1981



# Blessed Be the Tie That Binds

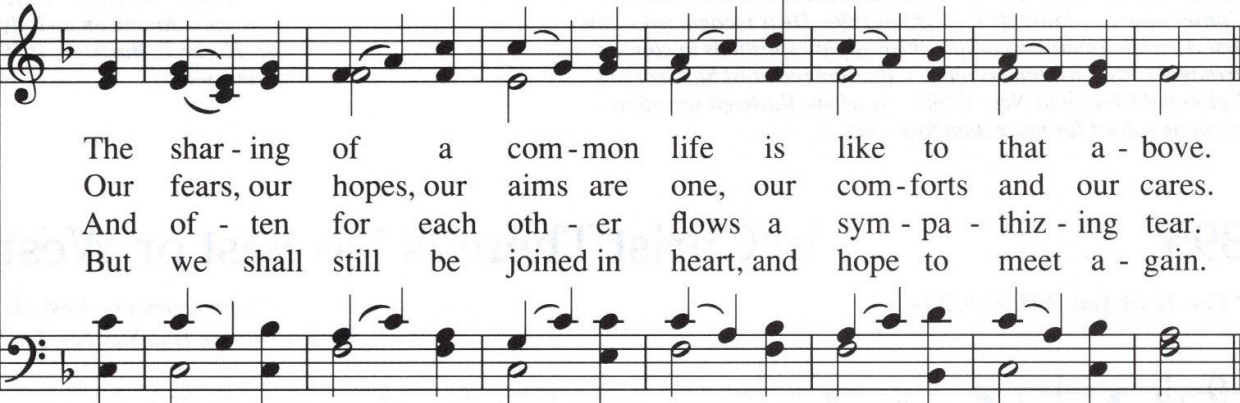
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*John Fawcett, 1782; alt.*

*Gal. 3:28; 6:2; Col. 3:13-15*



1 Blessed be the tie that binds our hearts in Chris - tian love;  
 2 Be - fore our God we come and pour our ar - dent prayers;  
 3 We share each oth - er's woes, each oth - er's bur - dens bear,  
 4 When we are called to part it gives us in - ward pain,



The shar - ing of a com - mon life is like to that a - bove.  
 Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.  
 And of - ten for each oth - er flows a sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.  
 But we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet a - gain.

*An English Baptist minister, John Fawcett published a number of poetic works. His entire ministry was spent at a church near Hebden Bridge, Yorkshire, where he wrote most of his hymns to follow his sermons.*

Tune: DENNIS S.M.  
 Melody by Johann G. Nägeli (c. 1768-1836)  
 Adapt. Lowell Mason, 1845

# We Are Marching

We are march - ing\* in the light of God, we are

1. march - ing in the light of God,  
march - ing in the light of God.

2. march - ing in the light of the  
march - ing in the light of God,

we are march - ing,  
light of God, we are march - ing, march - ing, we are

Oo we are  
march - ing, march - ing, we are march - ing in the light of God.

\* Alternate text: dancing, singing, praying