

## Welcome and Announcements

### Prelude/Candle Lighting

"Faith"  
(M. Hayes)

Oxana Khramova

### Ringling of the Bell

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

Leader: I am a human being.

**All: I am always arriving.**

Leader: Creativity is part of our DNA.

**All: It can be as unique as we are.**

Leader: No matter if we draw, dance, sing, play, program, or build:

**All: keep us creating art, with and for each other because we belong to one another.**

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

Artistic God, nurture in us as we nurture in ourselves and others our artistic talents.

May these skills be used for your glory. May we resist the weighted blanket of the world to keep creating, celebrating, coming together to remember that evil and hate will not have the final word. Not on our watch. Amen.

**\*Opening Hymn**

"I Sing the Mighty Power of God"

Hymnal #288

### Readings

Sally Conklin

Portions of Psalm 104

Hebrews 11:1-3

Excerpt from *Paint over me, but I'll still be here* (a poem about graffiti)

### Special Music

"Somewhere Over the Rainbow"

Dominique Stewart

(H. Arlen, arr. M. Lass)

### Sermon

"Art as Resistance"

Pastor René Mehlberg

### Transitional Music

"Kum ba Yah"

Hymnal #338

### Prayers of the People

## Lord's Prayer

Our Creator, 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** "Allemande from Partita 2, in D minor" Domonique Stewart  
(J.S. Bach)

## \*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 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** "Canticle of Turning" SoF #20

## \*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 Things Bright and Beautiful" Oxana Khramova  
(arr. M. Hayes)

*The beautiful wild flowers today are in celebration of Sally Conklin's birthday on August 15th. Happy Birthday Sally!*

## 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.
- Paint over Me, but I'll Still Be Here (a Poem about Graffiti). by Kb," Hello Poetry, May 2014, <https://hellopoetry.com/poem/716346/paint-over-me-but-ill-still-be-here-a-poem-about-graffiti/>.
- Licenses purchased to reprint, podcast, and/or stream the music in this service obtained: ONELICENSE #A-715543. All rights reserved. CCLI Copyright License B 20989858.

## This Week

**Monday, August 18, 6pm:** Menomonie Singers auditions, Fellowship Hall  
**Tuesday, August 19, 11:30am:** Council Meeting, Room 1  
**Tuesday, August 19, 6pm:** Menomonie Singers auditions, Sanctuary  
**Friday, August 21, 10am:** Refugia Circle, Room 1

**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**

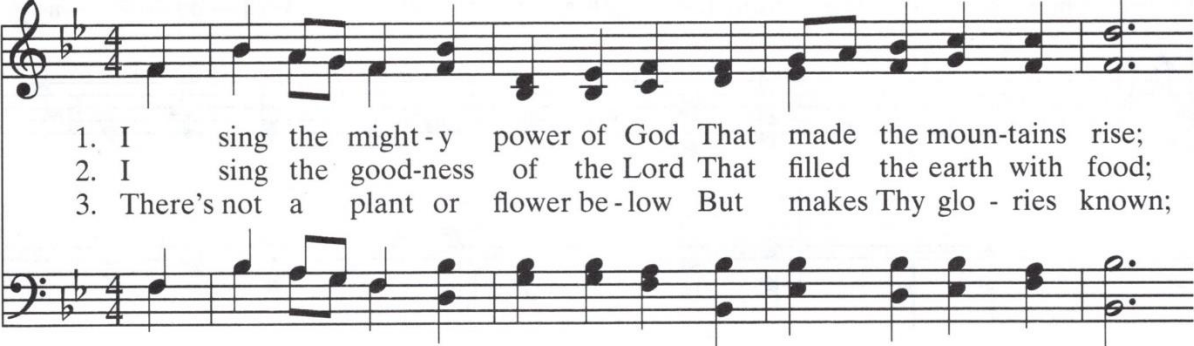
We covenant as a congregation to welcome, celebrate, and include lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning people and their families into the full life of our church. We take this stance publicly and proudly, knowing that silence is inadequate to confront the violent theology that is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

## I Sing the Mighty Power of God

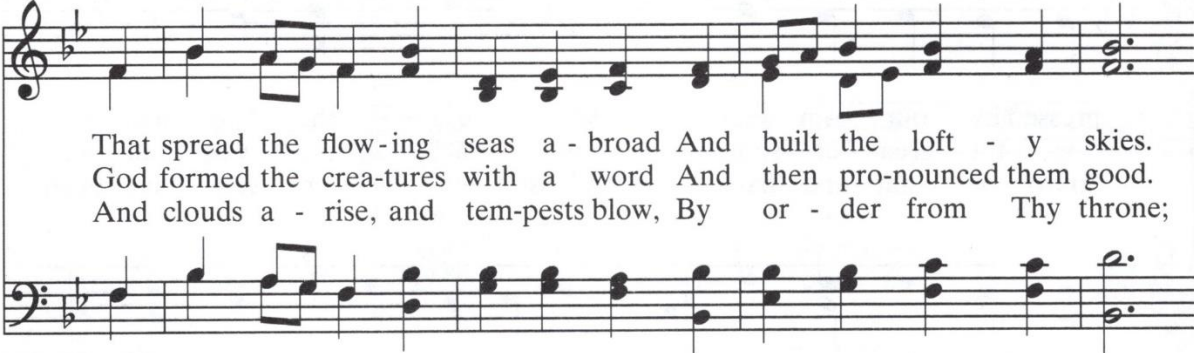
ELLACOMBE CMD

*Gesangbuch der Herzogl. Wirtembergischen  
Katholischen Hofkapelle, 1784; alt. 1868*

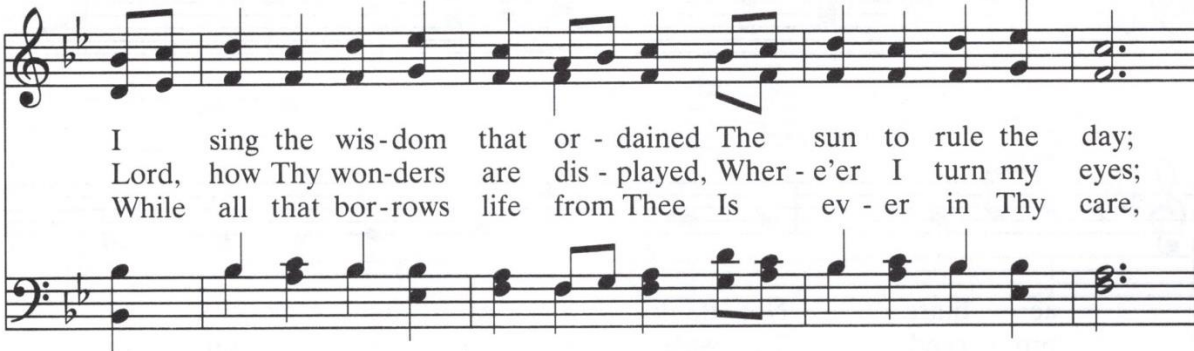
Isaac Watts, 1715; alt.



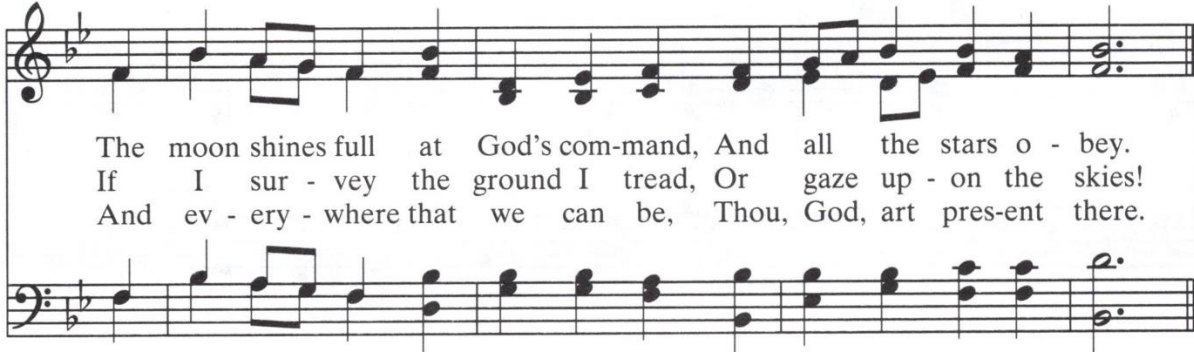
1. I sing the might-y power of God That made the moun-tains rise;  
 2. I sing the good-ness of the Lord That filled the earth with food;  
 3. There's not a plant or flower be-low But makes Thy glo - ries known;



That spread the flow-ing seas a - broad And built the loft - y skies.  
 God formed the crea-tures with a word And then pro-nounced them good.  
 And clouds a - rise, and tem-pests blow, By or - der from Thy throne;



I sing the wis-dom that or - dained The sun to rule the day;  
 Lord, how Thy won-ders are dis - played, Wher - e'er I turn my eyes;  
 While all that bor-rows life from Thee Is ev - er in Thy care,



The moon shines full at God's com-mand, And all the stars o - bey.  
 If I sur - vey the ground I tread, Or gaze up - on the skies!  
 And ev - ery - where that we can be, Thou, God, art pres-ent there.

# Kum ba Yah

338

8.8.8.5

African-American spiritual

African melody

1. \*Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah! Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba  
 2. Some-one's cry - ing, Lord, kum ba yah! Some-one's cry - ing, Lord, kum ba  
 3. Some-one's sing - ing, Lord, kum ba yah! Some-one's sing - ing, Lord, kum ba  
 4. Some-one's pray - ing, Lord, kum ba yah! Some-one's pray - ing, Lord, kum ba

yah! Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah! O Lord, kum ba yah!  
 yah! Some-one's cry - ing, Lord, kum ba yah! O Lord, kum ba yah!  
 yah! Some-one's sing - ing, Lord, kum ba yah! O Lord, kum ba yah!  
 yah! Some-one's pray - ing, Lord, kum ba yah! O Lord, kum ba yah!

\* Come by here.



# Canticle of the Turning

## Verses



1. My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the  
 2. Though I am small, my God, my all, you  
 3. From the halls of power to the for - tress tower, not a  
 4. Though the na - tions rage from age to age, we re -



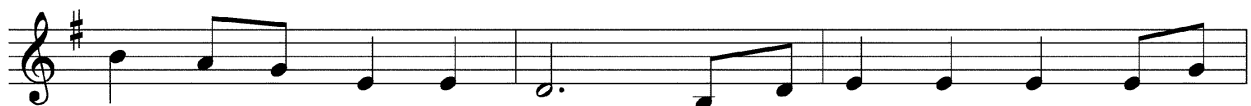
God of my heart is great, And my spir - it sings of the  
 work great things in me, And your mer - cy will last from the  
 stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your  
 mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who  
 depths of the past to the end of the age to  
 jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant from his  
 liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing



wait. You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my  
 be. Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to  
 throne. The hun - gry poor shall weep no more, for the  
 grasp. This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, So from east to west shall my  
 those who would for you yearn, You will show your might, put the  
 food they can nev - er earn; There are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry  
 prom - ise which holds us bound, 'Til the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?  
 strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
 mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.  
 crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.

Refrain

My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the  
fires of your jus - tice burn. Wipe a - way all tears, for the  
dawn draws near, and the world is a-bout to turn!

The musical score is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and folk-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff contains the first line of the refrain, the second staff contains the second line, and the third staff contains the third line, ending with a double bar line.

Text: Luke 1:46-58; Rory Cooney, b.1952, © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.  
Tune: STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN; Irish traditional; arr. by Rory Cooney, b.1952