

HILLS CHURCH



CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 15, 2021

Due to COVID precautions, we are asking everyone in the congregation to remain masked and to refrain from singing.

PRELUDE: Dialogue & Tierce en Taille *F. Couperin*
(from *Mass for the Convents*)
Marjorie Ness, guest organist

WELCOME & OPENING PRAYER

All who are able, please rise for the Call to Worship.

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: O God, we enter into this time of worship
longing for connection.

All: We hunger for the bread of Jesus, the bread of life,
and we thirst for you, O God.

One: O God, Let your ears be attentive
to the burdens on our hearts.

All: **We hunger for the bread of Jesus, the bread of life,
and we thirst for you, O God.**

One: Open us to the healing presence of your love, O God.

All: **We hunger for the bread of Jesus, the bread of life,
and we thirst for you, O God.**

One: We gather for worship to give you thanks and praise.

All: **We gather together in the name of your love. Amen.**

Please be seated.

HYMN: Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether
(as printed)

Union Seminary

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Generous God,
whose giving knows neither measure nor end,
We confess that all too often we have kept our own hearts,
hands and minds firmly closed.
Forgive us for those times
when our own wants and wishes
have filled the horizon to the exclusion of all else,
and made us blind and deaf
to the needs and concerns of others.
Forgive us for those situations
when seeing only a problem
rather than daring to dream a solution,
has left us fettered and powerless
where we might have been building your Kingdom.
Help us to keep our hearts firmly centered in love. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

SUMMARY OF THE LAW

GLORIA

Music by Alice Jordan

Glory to God the Creator,
and to the Christ, and to the Holy Spirit:
As it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

All who are able, please rise for the Passing of the Peace.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Please be seated.

SCRIPTURE READING: John 6:51-58 (The Message)

HOMILY: “The Bread of Life”

Anne Marie Holloway

SOLO: He Shall Feed His Flock (from *Messiah*)

G. F. Handel

Shannon Lebrón, mezzo-soprano

PRAYER CONCERNS & CELEBRATIONS

SILENT PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

OUR 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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY

HYMN: Just as I Am *Woodworth*
Hymns of Truth & Light (blue hymnal), #410

COMMISSION & BENEDICTION

Please remain seated during the Postlude.

POSTLUDE: Plein jeu (from *Mass for the Convents*) *Couperin*



Preacher: Rev. Anne Marie Holloway
Liturgist: Brad Tomlinson
Soloists: Shannon Lebrón, Stephen Lebrón

***Worship note:** We welcome Marjorie Ness as our guest organist today. Marjorie retired from Fitchburg State University in December 2015, having taught in the Humanities department, and directed the Choral Arts program. She served as interim Director of Music and Organist for Wesley United Methodist Church, Worcester for most of 2018, preceded by three other interims. Her degrees are in organ performance from Oberlin College, Northwestern University and the University of Iowa, Iowa City. She resides in Lancaster, MA.*

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Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether



1. Draw us in the Spir - it's teth - er, For when
2. As dis - ci - ples used to gath - er In the
3. All our meals and all our liv - ing Make as



hum - bly in your name, Two or
name of Christ to sup, Then with
sac - ra - ments of you, That by



three are met to - geth - er, You are in the
thanks to God the Fa - ther Break the bread and
car - ing, help - ing, giv - ing, We may be dis -



midst of them; Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
bless the cup, Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
ci - ples true. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



Touch we now your gar - ment's hem.
So now bind our friend - ship up.
We will serve with faith a - new.

Text: Percy Deamer, 1867-1936, alt., © Oxford University Press

Tune: UNION SEMINARY, 8 7 8 7 44 7; Harold Friedell, 1905-1958, © 1957, H. W. Gray Co., Inc.; harm. by Jet Turner, 1928-1984

“Draw Us in the Spirit’s Tether”

Music by Harold Friedell; Words by Percy Deamer

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Just as I Am

410

1. Just as I am, with - out one plea but that your
 2. Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y a
 3. Just as I am, you will re - ceive, will wel - come,
 4. Just as I am, your love un - known has bro - ken

blood was shed for me, and that you called in -
 con - flict, many a doubt, fight - ings and fears with -
 par - don, cleanse, re - lieve; be - cause your prom - ise
 ev - 'ry bar - rier down; now to be yours, and

vit - ing me, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!
 in, with - out, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!
 I be - lieve, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!
 yours a - lone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

WORDS: Charlotte Elliott, 1836, alt.
 MUSIC: William B. Bradbury, 1849

WOODWORTH
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Soprano Soloist	Laurie Otten
Alto Soloist	Shannon Lebrón
Tenor Soloist	Christian Figueroa
Bass Soloist	Garrett Murphy
Sound Technician	Kenny Goshgarian
Sound Technician	Steven Hopkins

GOD
IS STILL
SPEAKING

WE ARE AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION.
NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE,
NO MATTER WHERE YOU ARE
ON LIFE'S JOURNEY,
YOU ARE WELCOME HERE.