

January 22, 2023

Order of Worship

10:00am

An asterisk () indicates times when you are invited to stand. Selections in BOLD are responses spoken by the congregation.*

Welcome and Announcements

Deacon

Greeting God and One Another

Rev. Donna K. Manocchio

This is the day our God has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Prelude

Air (from Suite No. 3)
J. S. Bach (1685-1750) – arr. by Gordon Phillips

Norman McFarlane

Call to Worship

Deacon

One: Our God is a welcoming God,

All: Standing with arms outstretched to those gathering here.

One: Our God is a seeking God,

All: Calling in love to those who are wondering about a life of faith.

One: Our God is a hearing God,

All: Listening to our prayers and our hymns of praise.

One: Our God is a loving God,

All: And Christ lives and offers us abundant life. Alleluia!

*Gathering Hymn

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

560

Deacons will collect Joy and Concern cards at this time.

Unison Prayer of Invocation

Gracious and loving God., send the power of your Spirit upon us in this time of worship. Let our time with you and one another strengthen us for the walk of discipleship and renew us for the Christian journey. Guide us in your ways of love and justice and send us out to share the good news in word and deed. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

Welcoming New Members

Ginny McDaniel & Doug Williams

Joseph & Donna Sullivan

Steve Ekwurtzel and Avery & Teagan

Patricia Prindle

Deacons: Bob Giles and Beth Nichols

Moderators: Chad Henze and Lisa Reinhardt

Mentors: Sally Crapser, Paula & Whitey Johnson, Lewis Kuester, Dorothy & Stanley Hayes

Introductions

Deacon: We rejoice that you are here and have chosen to become a member of Granby Congregational Church, UCC. We are an inclusive, caring community of faith that is called to embody God's love through worship, study, service, and building community together. We celebrate the diversity found in all of God's creation and believe that all people are included in God's unconditional love and grace. Therefore, do you covenant with us to attend worship, invite and welcome others, and move forward and deeper on your spiritual journey with us?

New Members: **I do, with the help of God.**

Deacon: Do you covenant with us to seek daily to live and act in ways that help make Jesus' example of God's love for all people real, and to support this church and its ministries by giving as you are able of your time, talent, and financial resources?

New Members: **I do, with the help of God.**

Deacon: Do you covenant with us to further God's work and reflect the teachings of Jesus by standing with those who suffer and serving all humanity?

New Members: **I do, with the help of God and this faith community.**

Moderator: Do you then, as persons who have affirmed these covenants, seek to become one in spirit with the members and friends of Granby Congregational Church, United Church of Christ?

New Members: **I do!**

Moderator: (to the congregation)

Friends and members of this church, I commend to you these persons. Do you covenant to do all in your power to affirm their faith journey, strengthen their hope and embrace them in love?

Congregation: We do, with the help of God.

Congregation: We welcome you with joy! As partners in the common life of this congregation, we pledge to you our friendship and prayers as we grow together in God's transforming love. We promise our presence and care in times of need and to rejoice with you in times of celebration. We give thanks that you join us now, as fellow seekers and servants!

Presentation and Welcoming Hand of Fellowship

Deacon: In the name of Jesus Christ and on behalf of our congregation, we extend to you our hands in Christian love, welcoming you into the company and family of Granby Congregational Church, United Church of Christ.

Unison Blessing Prayer:

O God, we praise you for calling us to both seek and serve you, and for gathering us into this church. Together may we grow into your Spirit, building one another up in love and ministering to the world as followers of Jesus. Amen.

Children are invited to leave for the Pathfinders program.

This Little Light of Mine (two verses)

Choir Anthem

Draw The Circle Wide
Mark A. Miller

Prayers of the People for the World

Rev. Donna K. Manocchio

The Lord's Prayer

Rev. Donna K. Manocchio

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, now and forever. Amen.

Introduction to Scripture

Rev. Donna K. Manocchio

Scripture

Deacon

As we hear the words of scripture

Let us listen in the words for the Word of God.

Acts 11: 19-26 - J.B. Phillips Translation

Now those who had been dispersed by the persecution which arose over Stephen travelled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus and Antioch, giving the message as they went to Jews only.

However, among their number were natives of Cyprus and Cyrene, and these men, on their arrival at Antioch, proclaimed their message to the Greeks as well, telling them the good news of the Lord Jesus.

The hand of the Lord was with them,

and a great number believed and turned to the Lord.

News of these things came to the ears of the Church in Jerusalem and they sent Barnabas to Antioch.

When he arrived and saw this working of God's grace, he was delighted.

He urged them all to be resolute in their faithfulness to the Lord, for he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith.

So it happened that a considerable number of people became followers of the Lord.

Then Barnabas went to Tarsus to find Saul.

When he found him he brought him up to Antioch.

Then for a whole year they met together with the Church and taught a large crowd.

It was in Antioch that the disciples were first given the name of "Christians".

The grass withers and the flower fades

But the Word of God shall stand forever

Message

"O God, Make Me Like Joe!"

Rev. Donna K. Manocchio

*Closing Hymn

Lord, I Want to be a Christian

589

*Benediction

Rev. Donna K. Manocchio

You are invited to for a circle of blessing for today's benediction.

When prompted, please respond:

I am Granby Congregational Church!

(turning to a neighbor) **You are Granby Congregational Church!**

(hands extended overhead) **We are Granby Congregational Church!**

Departing Music

Te Deum

Norman McFarlane

Marc-Antoine Charpentier (1643-1704) - arr. by Christina Harmon