



ALKI UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
September 11, 2022
Order of Service for the Worship of God
Homecoming/Communion Sunday

Gathering Music Becky Cain, Accompanist

Welcome Rev. Emily Tanis-Likkel

Call to worship: Emily H, Liturgist

When we find ourselves surrounded
by supportive relationships
or when we feel lost and alone,
unsure of the way forward:
love is never far away.

When our faith is rock solid
and we are filled with wisdom,
or when we are mired in doubt
and we just don't know:
love is never far away.

All that we are –
every circumstance and feeling –
is welcomed by the Spirit
into the heart of worship:
love is never far away.

Musical response *Bind Us Together*

Bob Gilman (music/lyrics attached)

Invocation

Opening Song *Morning Has Broken*

Morning has broken, like the first morning.
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing, praise for the morning,
Praise for the springing fresh from the world.
Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from heaven.
Like the first dew fall, on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
Sprung in the completeness, where His feet pass.

Music: Cat Stevens; Lyrics: Eleanor Farjeon
Mine is the sunlight, mine if the morning.
Born of the one light Eden saw play.
Praise with elation, praise every morning,
God's recreation of the new day.
Morning has broken, like the first morning.
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing, praise for the morning,
Praise for the springing fresh from the world.

Scripture Readings

Psalm 14: 3-4, re-imagined by Jennifer Garrison Brownell in *The Words of Her Mouth: Songs for the Struggle*

Sometimes they eat bread like this, the evildoers:
They drive up to a window for something called food. They eat and drive and talk on the phone
and think about another thing altogether. Sometimes they eat up my people like that too,
thoughtlessly, not even really paying attention.
Sometimes they eat bread like this, the evildoers:
They purchase just the freshest ingredients. The day is spent in preparation--rendering, whipping,
chopping. At the end of the day, when they sit around a gleaming table with friends, the meal is
filling, beautiful, delectable. Sometimes they eat up my people like that too, with care and
planning.

It is hard to know which hurts more, being eaten up with offhanded carelessness or with meticulous malice. Maybe it doesn't matter, because the end is the same.
My people, o my people, have been eaten up.

Luke 15:1-10, NRSV

All the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."
So he told them this parable: "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.
"Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

Sermon "Getting Lost and Found"

Quiet Meditation

Song #393 *Blessed Be the Tie That Binds*

Blessed be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;
The sharing of a common life is like to that above.

Before our God we come and pour our ardent prayers;
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts and our cares.

We share each other's woes, each other's burdens bear,
And often for each other flows a sympathizing tear.

When we are called to part it given us inward pain,
But we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet again.

Prayers of the People

You are invited to voice your prayers aloud at "Hear our Prayers, O God." Response after each petition is "Hear our Prayer."

Time, Talent and Treasure

Online: Please donate generously through alkiucc.org, through a mailed donation to the church office or through text-to-give by texting the word "AlkiUCC" to 44321 and a donation link will come back to you. Your support for Alki is more important now than ever as the church seeks to be a prophetic voice for all people in the year ahead.

In Person: You can leave a donation as you exit today. Collection plates are at the back of the Sanctuary and offering envelopes are in the pews to use as desired.

Musical Offering

Doxology #778

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ and Spirit, One.

Prayer of Dedication

Holy Communion

Following the Communion Prayer, you will be invited to come forward and form a line to individually receive the sacrament. Please hold the elements as you return to your seat, as we will share them together after all have been served.

Song during Communion: #788 Eat This Bread

Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and never be hungry.
Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

We thank you, Spirit of God, that you have nourished us at your table. This meal grounds us in who we are. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace.

In the name of Jesus Christ our Liberator, Amen.

Closing Song #459 Come, O Fount of Every Blessing

Come O Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing your grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of end-less praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount; I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unfailing love.

Here I pause in my sojourning, giving thanks for having come,
Come to trust, at every turning, God will guide me safely home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God.
Came to rescue me from danger, blessed body, precious blood.

O to grace a debtor daily I am drawn a new.
Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to you.
Prone to wander, I can feel it, wander from the love I've known:
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for your very own.

Benediction

Sung Benediction *I've Got Peace Like a River* Traditional (Last Page)

Postlude

Hospitality Hour

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Order of Worship Subject to Change
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Portions of today's service are recorded
for posting on Alki UCC's YouTube channel.

Alki UCC

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BIND US TOGETHER

Words and Music by
BOB GILLMAN

Flowing (♩ = ♩³)

Em7 A7 D G/A A7

mf

D Em7 F#m7 Bm7

Bind us to - geth - er, Lord, bind us to - geth - er with

Em7 A7 G/A A7 D G/A

cords that can - not be bro - ken.

D Em7 F#m7 Bm7 Em7

Bind us to - geth - er, Lord, bind us to - geth - er, Lord, bind us to -

To Coda

A7 D G/D D Em7

geth - er with love. _____ There is on - ly one

F#m7 Em7 D Em7 A7 D G/A

God, _____ there is on - ly one King, _____

D Em7 F#m7 Em7 D

there is on - ly one bod - y; _____ that is

D.S. % al Coda

Em7 A7 D G/A A7

why we can sing: _____

CODA

G D/F# Em7 D

love. _____

I'VE GOT PEACE LIKE A RIVER

TRADITIONAL

[♩ = 100]

N.C. F Csus F A A7/C# Dm Bb

1. I've got peace like a riv - er, I've got peace like a
 2. I've got love like an o - cean, I've got love like an
 3. I've got joy like a foun - tain, I've got joy like a

C7 N.C. F Dsus G9 Em/G G7 C7sus C7

riv - er, I've got peace like a riv - er in my soul, I've got
 o - cean, I've got love like an o - cean in my soul, I've got
 foun - tain, I've got joy like a foun - tain in my soul, I've got

F Csus F A A7/C# Dm Bb C7

peace like a riv - er, I've got peace like a riv - er, I've got
 love like an o - cean, I've got love like an o - cean, I've got
 joy like a foun - tain, I've got joy like a foun - tain, I've got

F Dm G9 C7 F Bb/F F

peace like a riv - er in my soul,
 love like an o - cean in my soul,
 joy like a foun - tain in my soul.