



ALKI UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

August 25, 2024

Order of Service

for the Worship of God

**I've Been Meaning to Ask
... Where do we go from here?**

Gathering Music

Stephen Anthony Rawson, Music Director

Prelude

Bind Us Together

Welcome and Land Acknowledgment

Rev. Emily Tanis-Likkel

Centering Song

melody-measure DJ Wilson
Who are you?
Where do we go now?

Call to Worship

Diane J, Liturgist
We are here, practicing being courageous.
We are here, practicing being curious.
We are here, practicing building connections.
We are welcome in this place,
Where our vulnerabilities are honored,
Our stories are sacred.
Let us worship Holy God.

Opening Song

My Lighthouse

Rand Collective

Prayer for Transformation and Words of Grace

Scripture

Acts 10:9-16, 19-36

Common English Bible

Peter went up on the roof to pray. He became hungry and wanted to eat. While others were preparing the meal, he had a visionary experience. He saw heaven opened up and something like a large linen sheet being lowered to the earth by its four corners. Inside the sheet were all kinds of four-legged animals, reptiles, and wild birds. A voice told him, "Get up, Peter! Kill and eat!"

Peter exclaimed, "Absolutely not, Lord! I have never eaten anything impure or unclean." The voice spoke a second time, "Never consider unclean what God has made pure." This happened three times, then the object was suddenly pulled back into heaven.

While Peter was brooding over his vision, the Spirit interrupted him, "Look! Three people are looking for you. Go downstairs. Don't ask questions; just go with them because I have sent them."

So Peter went downstairs and told them, "I'm the one you are looking for. Why have you come?"

They replied, "We've come on behalf of Cornelius, a centurion and righteous man, a God-worshipper who is well-respected by all Jewish people. A holy angel directed him to summon you to his house and to hear what you have to say." Peter invited them into the house as his guests.

The next day he got up and went with them, together with some of the believers from Joppa. They arrived in Caesarea the following day. Anticipating their arrival, Cornelius had gathered his relatives and close friends. As Peter entered the house, Cornelius met him

and fell at his feet in order to honor him. But Peter lifted him up, saying, “Get up! Like you, I’m just a human.” As they continued to talk, Peter went inside and found a large gathering of people. He said to them, “You all realize that it is forbidden for a Jew to associate or visit with outsiders. However, God has shown me that I should never call a person impure or unclean. For this reason, when you sent for me, I came without objection. I want to know, then, why you sent for me.”

Cornelius answered, “Four days ago at this same time, three o’clock in the afternoon, I was praying at home. Suddenly a man in radiant clothing stood before me. He said, ‘Cornelius, God has heard your prayers, and your compassionate acts are like a memorial offering to him. Therefore, send someone to Joppa and summon Simon, who is known as Peter. He is a guest in the home of Simon the tanner, located near the seacoast.’ I sent for you right away, and you were kind enough to come. Now, here we are, gathered in the presence of God to listen to everything the Lord has directed you to say.”

Peter said, “I really am learning that God doesn’t show partiality to one group of people over another. Rather, in every nation, whoever worships him and does what is right is acceptable to him. This is the message of peace he sent to the Israelites by proclaiming the good news through Jesus Christ: He is Lord of all!

Sermon

Quiet Meditation

Song *O For a World, 575*

Prayers of the People

Time, Talent & Treasure

Mission Updates

Offering Invitation **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; a donation link will come back to you. Your support for Alki UCC is more important than ever.

Musical Offering

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

Song *Draw the Circle Wide* Gordon Light

Benediction

Sending Music

Service liturgy by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Image: Ever Wider by Lisle Gwynn Garrity

Order of Worship Subject to Change

Music Covered by One License.net #A-7 10529

Portions of today’s service are recorded for posting on
Alki UCC’s YouTube channel.

Alki United Church of Christ (Alki UCC)

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Stephen Anthony Rawson, Music Director

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