

Welcome to First Reformed UCC... We're glad that you chose to worship with us today!

10:00AM Worship – 8 October 2017




SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER WORSHIP SERIES: MCM Beliefs & Values

During the months of September and October we will be exploring our beliefs and values as Manitowoc Cooperative Ministry. We are a ministry that was called into being by God: to be a witness of love, grace, and hope in our community. Throughout these months, you will learn about the sources of our faith and you will come to understand your calling to be part of God's transformation in our community through MCM.

We're grateful for those serving in worship today, including: Ministers—All the gathered; Worship Leader—Savanna Haack; and Ushers—Jan Kreil & Jan Mettelmann.

First Reformed United Church of Christ is a historic congregation serving the Manitowoc community since 1868. Today we are a member of Manitowoc Cooperative Ministry and served by co-pastors The Rev Judine A Duerwaechter and The Rev Dr Matthew L Sauer. Our mission states that "we covenant to share, serve, and live the Gospel as we incorporate the strengths of each congregation in service to the Manitowoc community."

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|  Manitowoc Cooperative Ministry churches serving together | First Presbyterian Church (PCUSA) 920.682.4688 – 502 N 8 th St |
| | First Reformed United Church of Christ 920.682.6121 – 3613 Waldo Blvd |
| | St John's United Church of Christ 920.682.3817 – 1501 Marshall St |
| | Pastor Judine Duerwaechter 920.286.2133 – judineann@gmail.com |
| | Pastor Matt Sauer 920.860.6880 – pastor@fpcfamilly.com |

Welcome! Please sign the **friendship pad**, which is located near the end of each pew. * When **communion** is celebrated, all who want to call Jesus Lord are welcomed to the Table of Love. * Please use the **prayer cards** in the pew racks to share your prayer requests with the pastors. * **Hearing assistance devices** are available from the ushers. * Children are always welcome in worship; if and when you need **child care or a nursing space**, please let an usher know and they will assist you.

All who are able, please stand and sit as indicated in the bulletin.

*Parts the people say are indicated by **bold text**; parts the people sing are indicated by a ♪ symbol.*

GATHERING AS GOD'S FAMILY

PRELUDE

INTROIT Dream God's Dream (refrain) *Bryan Sirchio* Senior Choir

TIME OF CENTERING *We focus our attention on God as our time of worship begins*

Lord, Prepare Me

Sanctuary

Lord, pre - pare me to be a sanc - tu - ar - y, pure and
ho - ly, tried and true. With thanks - giv - ing,
I'll be a liv - ing sanc - tu - ar - y for you.

GATHERING *We join in our weekly celebration of God's love*

All who are able, please stand

WE WELCOME ONE ANOTHER IN THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST *We greet others with God's love*

♪ **Holy, Holy, Holy** [HYMNAL #277]

Please be seated

CALL TO CONFESSION *We are invited to recognize we need God's help*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *We acknowledge the ways in which we have missed God's mark*

All Loving Lord, we thank you that we have your Holy Spirit living in us so we can live and work to praise and glorify you. We admit that we have become conformed to this world, comfortable in our own comfort while others only know discomfort. Forgive us for not seeing the desecration and not hearing the cries of your creation. Forgive us and let you Holy Spirit fill us, so we may work to transform our community into your beloved community. **AMEN!**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS *We are reminded of God's eternal mercy and forgiveness*

♪ **All Praise Be Yours** [HYMNAL #100; stanza 4]

All ♪ **Praise God, who gives all blessings birth;
Praise God all creatures on the earth;
Praise God, who makes, sustains, sets free;
One holy God in persons three.**

EMBRACING GOD'S WORD FOR US

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *We prepare to seek God in the Word*

THE WORD OF GOD [from 1 Peter 1.13-23, *New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)*]

One ¹³Therefore prepare your minds for action; discipline yourselves; set all your hope on the grace that Jesus Christ will bring you when he is revealed. ¹⁴Like obedient children, do not be conformed to the desires that you formerly had in ignorance. ¹⁵Instead, as he who called you is holy, be holy yourselves in all your conduct; ¹⁶for it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy."

¹⁷If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. ¹⁸You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. ²⁰He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. ²¹Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

²²Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. ²³You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

One God's Word for the Children of God.

All **Praise be to God!**

ANTHEM Lord, Can You Hear Us Praying? *Nancy Price & Don Besig* Senior Choir

SERMON Who We Are: Being the Holy

All who are able, please stand

♪ **Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart** [HYMNAL #290]

SHARING & RECEIVING GOD'S GIFTS

Please be seated

CALL TO PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S PRAYER

Please pray using whichever version of the Lord's prayer is comfortable to you—here is one version...

All Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. **AMEN!**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING *We respond with generosity, as God has first given to us*

OFFERTORY

All who are able, please stand

♪ Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

All ♪ Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and Spirit one.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

PRAYER OF DEDICATION *We offer our gifts and ourselves to God*

DEPARTING IN GOD'S SERVICE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING *We go into the world as the Body of Christ*

♪ Go Now in Peace

All ♪ Go now in peace, never be afraid.
God will go with you each hour of every day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong, and true.
Know God will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe.
Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there watching from above.
Go now in Peace, in faith, and in love.
Amen. Amen. Amen.

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POSTLUDE