

Lyonsville Congregational United Church of Christ

September 12, 2021 at 10:00am

zoom.us/j/7082461255 or call 312-626-6799.

The meeting ID is 708 246 1255. The password is 60525.

If dialing in, press # when asked for a participant ID.

To manage noise, all participants are muted except for congregational participation.

Rev. Sean Williams, Pastor
Mike Molloy, Worship Artist
Diane Marelli, Worship Artist

We welcome Cassie Crowell, providing live music today.

Gathering Music/Prelude

“Prelude in C Major (BWV 846)”

by J. S. Bach (Public Domain)

Greeting

One: This is the day the Lord has made!

All: **Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

Call to Worship

One: We gather together in a new way today, yet steeped in tradition and memory.

All: **We gather, some of us in this chapel built by our ancestors, others in our homes. We are together.**

One: We grieve our absence from this space even as we give thanks for it re-opening today.

All: **We give thanks for the scientists and doctors and nurses who have taught us how to gather safely in person.**

One: We gather in the tenderness of many emotions, memories and hopes.

All: **We gather as God’s people to worship.**

Opening Song

“Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”

(GTG 367) (Public Domain)

Come, ye thankful people, come; raise the song of harvest home.

All is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin.

God, our Maker, doth provide for our wants to be supplied.

Come to God’s own temple, come; raise the song of harvest home.

All the world is God’s own field, fruit in thankful praise to yield,

wheat and tares together sown, unto joy or sorrow grown.

First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear.

Lord of harvest, grant that we wholesome grain and pure may be.

For the Lord our God shall come, and shall take the harvest home;
from each field shall in that day all offenses purge away;
give the angels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,
but the fruitful ears to store in God's garner evermore.

Even so, Lord, quickly come to thy final harvest home.
Gather thou thy people in, free from sorrow, free from sin,
there forever purified, in thy presence to abide:
come, with all thine angels, come; raise the glorious harvest home!

Passing the Peace

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Word for Children

Rev. Sean Williams

Scripture Reading

Jean Hegner, Reader

Philippians 3: 7-14, Mark 8: 27-38

The Word in Music

"The Summons"

Graham Maule & John Bell

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Sermon

Rev. Sean Williams

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"When Loss Is Gain"

Reflection Song

"How Can I Keep From Singing"

(GTG 821) (Public Domain)

My life flows on in endless song, above earth's lamentation.
I hear the clear, though far off hymn that hails a new creation.

Refrain:

No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?

Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear that music ringing.
It finds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing?

Refrain:

No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I'm clinging,
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?

What though my joys and comforts die? I know my Savior liveth.
What though the darkness gather round? Songs in the night he giveth.

Refrain:

No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I'm clinging,
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?

The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing!
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from singing?

Refrain:

No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I'm clinging,
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?

Reception of New Members

Leaders: Judy Birmingham (Minister for Mission and Outreach), Melissa Corlett (Clerk),
Sanna Bashor (Moderator), Rev. Sean Williams (Pastor)

Invitation

Scripture

Questions of the Candidates

Affirmation of Faith and Covenant

Using the Covenant of this Congregation

Pastor: The Church of Jesus Christ is a covenant people. The faith of those in the Old and New Testaments, as well as those throughout the history of the Christian Church, is deeply rooted in the covenantal relationship with God and one another. The Christian covenant is a symbol of binding commitment between a people of faith and God, the creator and renewer of the Church.

All: **We covenant with one another to seek and respond to the Word and the Will of God. We purpose to walk together in the ways of the Lord, made known and to be made known to us. We hold it to be the mission of the Church to witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ in all the world, while worshipping God, and striving for truth, justice and peace. As did our**

ancestors, we depend on the Holy Spirit to lead and empower us. We pray for the coming of the Kingdom of God, and we look with faith toward the triumph of righteousness and eternal life.

Address

Welcome and Reception

Pastor: Let us, the members of Lyonsville Congregational United Church of Christ, express our welcome and affirm our shared ministry in Christ.

All: **We welcome you with joy into the common life of this church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.**

Greeting of Christian Love

All members of the congregation gesture with Christian open arms.

Prayer

Prayers of the Church

The Lord's Prayer

Offering our Gifts and Prayers

Karas Scholarship Award

Invitation

Online Giving: lyonsvillechurch.org/donate OR via the "Realm Connect" app
Mail Giving: Mail contributions to: 6871 Joliet Road, Indian Head Park IL 60525.

Music at the Offertory

"My Jesus I Love Thee"

by Lloyd Larson ©2014 Hope Publishing Company
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Doxology

Prayer of Thanks

Announcements

Closing Song

“Faith of Our Fathers”

(Chalice 635) (Public Domain)

Faith of our fathers, living still in spite of dungeon,
fire and sword, oh, how our hearts beat high with joy
when e'er we hear that glorious word! Faith of our fathers,
holy faith, we will be true to thee till death.

The martyrs bound in prison chains were still in heart and
conscience free, and bless'd would be their children's fate,
if they, like them, should live for thee! Faith of the martyrs,
holy faith, we will be true to thee till death.

Faith of our mothers, we will love both friend and foe in
all our strife, and preach thee, too, as love knows how,
by saving word and faithful life! Faith of our mothers,
holy faith, we will be true to thee til death.

Spoken Blessing

Sung Blessing - “Go In Peace”

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Sung Blessing: © 1998 Abingdon Press

Go in peace and the peace of God be with you this day.
Go in peace and the peace of God be with you always.
Celebrate and share the joy! Celebrate new life!
Go in peace and the peace of God be with you always.

Postlude

“Italian Concerto Mvt. 1”

by J. S. Bach (Public Domain)

IN-PERSON WORSHIP COVID GUIDELINES

We understand that combining three main precautions reliably leads to safe indoor gatherings: mask wearing, distancing, and ventilation. Our policies are consistent with guidance and requirements from local, state, and federal public health authorities and our wider United Church of Christ. As conditions change, we will review and adjust these policies as well:

- **Everyone over the age of 2 will need to wear a mask that covers their mouth and nose, regardless of vaccination status.**
- **Every other pew will be available for seating. Unavailable pews will be marked off. Maintain at least 6 feet in distance from those outside your household.**
- **Windows will be open to provide ventilation. (even in cooler weather)**
- **Fellowship Hour will be outdoors in East parking lot (weather permitting). We ask that people leave the building as soon as service ends. You are encouraged to bring a lawn chair or blanket to enjoy distanced fellowship. You may remove your mask outdoors, if you would like. In case of inclement weather, fellowship time will be held indoors without food and beverage.**
- **Worship leaders may choose to lead without a mask while on the chancel if they are vaccinated AND have tested negative for COVID within the previous 72 hours.**

For the safety of all of us, we request good-natured adherence to these policies. Thank you.