

CELEBRATING THE SABBATH  
Fifth Sunday after Pentecost  
Open and Affirming Sunday

June 27, 2021 at 10 o'clock



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*Openness may not completely disarm prejudice, but it's a good place to start.*

Jason Collins, one of the first openly gay athletes in U.S. pro sports

PRELUDES

*Lied, from 24 Pièces en style libre*

Louis Vierne

*Poem*

Gilbert M. Martin

SHARING OUR WELCOME

WE COME TO WORSHIP

One: We are the body of Christ!

**Many: Justice, seeking, bread breaking, hymn singing, risk taking.**

One: The body of Christ, baptized by one Spirit, we are members of one body.

**Many: Many and varied in culture, sexuality, age, class and ability, we are members of Christ's body.**

One: None of us can say to another, "I have no need of you,"

**Many: for only together can we find wholeness.**

One: Come in, all are welcome, come into worship! Come with our longings, your questions and your fears.

**Many: Come with your dreams of a better day, one with dignity and safety for all!**

One: Thanks be to God who in Christ has made us one!

**Many: Let us worship God! Alleluia!**

Dumbarton UMC (Adapted)

HYMN # 284 (VV. 1, 4)

*Gather Us In*

[Click here to see hymn](#)

The cantor will sing the first hymn

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OPENING PRAYER

**All: Wondrous God, we praise You for the splendors of creation. Thank You, that woven throughout the tapestry of earth are the threads of human diversity. Created in Your image, we are people of different histories and cultures, ages and classes, genders and sexual identities. We are Your beloved people. Free us, we pray, from the fear of difference that divide and wound us. Move us to dismantle hatred and systems of prejudice. Renew our commitment to make this community a household of faith for all people – that all who worship may know the grade of our loving God and the challenge of faith. In our life together, open our minds and hearts to be eager to learn, reluctant to judge, and responsive to the leading of your loving Spirit. We ask this in Christ's name. Amen.**

Affirm United (Adapted)

## SELECTION

*How Can I Keep from Singing*  
Eve Schmitt, carillon

## SCRIPTURE LESSON

[Isaiah 56:1-8](#)

Elizabeth Oman-Wilfrid

## SERMON

*Thus Says the Lord*

David Figliuzzi, YDS Seminarian

## A TIME OF PRAYER

Amie Giguere

**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, forever. Amen.**

## UNISON READING OF FIRST CHURCH DECLARATION OF OPEN AND AFFIRMING

**Celebrating the Biblical mandate to “love your neighbor as yourself” (Luke 10:27) and aware that “God shows no partiality” (Romans 2:11), First Church welcomes and affirms each person regardless of age, disability condition, economic standing, gender, nationality, race or sexual orientation.**

**Our faith invites and challenges us to live the fullness of the Gospel as we affirm the following:**

- **God creates us to be in community and encourages us to share openly and honestly in our common life and mission.**
- **God blesses the diversity that is a reality in the world.**
- **God calls us to seek justice in our church and world as we guard and celebrate the worth of each person.**

## HYMN #485

*Diverse in Culture, Nation, Race*  
Join as you are able!

[Click here to see hymn](#)

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## BENEDICTION

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## POSTLUDE

*Allegro, from the Trumpet Concerto in C Major*

John Stanley

*Questions for reflection and discussion:*

- In what ways is God still calling us to expand our welcome?
- The Israelites were fighting over the creation of an 'in-group' - in what ways are we 'othering' certain groups of people?
- What can we let go of in order to speak a new word of welcome?