

First Congregational United Church of Christ
615 N. First Street, DeKalb, Illinois 60115
815-758-0691 www.UCCDeKalb.org
May 12th, 2024
Seventh Sunday of Easter

Our Mission:

To embody God's love for all by living an active faith
in service to others.

We Gather to Affirm God's Presence in Our Lives.

All are welcome. Bring your whole self here,
and we will celebrate all that you are with you and before God.

* Indicates please stand

PRELUDE

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

*** CHOIR INTROIT**

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Let us consider the sufferings of this present time not
worth comparing to the glory God will reveal in us.

People: We are a resurrection people who live with the hope of our own promise of resurrection.

Leader: What then are we to say about these things: if God is for us, who can be against us?

People: Indeed – what will separate us from the love of God? It is God who justifies – who is to condemn us?

All: Let us remain persuaded that nothing will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. Let us worship knowing we are assured of God’s love and forgiveness.

Hymn: #286 NCH “Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness”

***UNISON INVOCATION**

Paul tells us that when words fail us, the Spirit will intercede with sighs too deep for words. May that same Spirit abide with us today. When we are overwhelmed with the fears and anxieties this world can create, may the Spirit remind us that nothing can separate us from the love of God. May the hope of that notion and the promise of our resurrection in Christ sustain us through the living of our days and inspire us in moments like this to sing praise to the living God. Amen

CHILDREN'S TIME

NOISY OFFERING

Choir Anthem: Hymn to Christ the Light by Zebulon M. Highben

Scripture: Selected Verses from Romans, Chapter 8

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only creation, but we ourselves groan inwardly while we wait for the adoption and redemption of our bodies. Likewise, the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Who will separate us from the love of Christ? In all things we are more than conquerors through the one who loved us. For I am persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor depth, nor height, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

SERMON

OFFERTORY

**Choir Anthem: Senzenina – Traditional Xhosa-South African
Anti-Apartheid Folk Song**

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SILENCE

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father (Mother, if preferred), who art in heaven
Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom (or kindom) 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 kindom (or kingdom), the power, and the
glory forever. Amen**

Choir Anthem: True Light by Keith Hampton

***UNISON BENEDICTION**

**May the God of all creation,
The Christ of our Redemption,
And the Spirit of our Inspiration
Rest and abide with us all today and forevermore.
Amen**

CHOIR BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

SERVING THE CONGREGATION TODAY

Ministers: All of Us Liturgist: Barb Mitchell
Pastor: John Dorhauer Video: Lisa Gorchels
Organist: Travis Erikson
Co-Moderators: Amy Overton, Courtney Hanna-McNamara

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Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness

James K. Manley, 1978, alt.

Unison, brightly

Refrain

Spir - it, Spir - it of gen - tle-ness, blow through the

wil - der-ness, call - ing and free,

Spir - it, spir - it of rest - less-ness, stir me from

Last time, end

plac - id-ness, wind, wind on the sea.

1 You moved on the wa - - - - - you called to the
 2 You swept through the des - - - - - you stung with the
 3 You sang in a sta - - - - - ble, you you cried from a
 4 You call from to - mor - - - - - row, you you break an - cient

deep, then you coaxed up the moun - tains from the
 sand, and you goad - ed your peo - ple with a
 hill, then you whis - pered in si - lence when the
 schemes, from the bond - age of sor - row the

val - leys of sleep; And o - ver the ce - - - - - ons you
 law and a land; When they were con - found - ed by their
 whole world was still; And down in the ci - - - - - ty
 cap - tives dream dreams; Our wom - en see vi - - - - - sions, our

called to each thing, "A - - - - - wake from your slum - -
 i - dols and lies, then you spoke through your proph -
 called once a - gain, when you blew through your peo -
 men clear their eyes. With bold new de - - - - - ci - -

bers and rise on your wings."
 ets o - pen their eyes.
 ple to on the rush of the wind.
 sions your peo - ple a - rise.

to Refrain