

THE RECLAMATION

redefine faith. reimagine love. reignite hope.

October 20th, 2024

Twenty-Second Sunday
after Pentecost

Give me one hundred preachers who fear nothing but sin and desire nothing but God, and I care not whether they be clergymen or laymen, they alone will shake the gates of Hell and set up the kingdom of Heaven upon Earth.
— John Wesley

Online worshipers (live stream) are invited to greet the congregation by writing your name in the YouTube chat. Please also submit any prayer requests via the YouTube chat – to be shared during “Prayers of the People.”

PRELUDE “Cantata BWV 147 Jazz Arrangement” Naoki Nishi
Sam Rosenbaum

***CALL TO WORSHIP AND INVOCATION** The Jorgenson Family

Leader: God of the finite and immediate, of the infinite and eternal, we come today to be reminded You are with us.

People: Whether we arrive with excitement, resignation, fear, or lamentation, let Your presence be our center.

Leader: God of the poor and the hungry, the lost and the lonely, we come today to be reminded You are with us.

People: Whether we are empty or fulfilled, broken or healing, let Your presence be our guide.

Leader: God who holds All and is in All [...]
We come today to be reminded You are transforming us.

People: Whether we’ve known it all along, or can barely begin to believe, let Your presence be revealed in us. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN** “O How Glorious, Full of Wonder” #558 NCH

WORDS OF WELCOME Ava Bilton

GOSPEL READING From Matthew 23

TIME OF UNBURDENING

PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION (UNISON)

Just God, we confess our attachment to things of this world, to safety, to status, and to our possessions. We acknowledge the pride we take in doing good things that require little of us, while turning away from the needed thing that challenges our time and our desires. Make us repairers of brokenness and restorers of lost. Help us to discern that life in full pursuit of your Kingdom is rich, full, and freeing. Help us meet the moment with abounding love and abiding faith. Amen.

***WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND PASSING OF THE PEACE**

WORD OF GOD FOR (SM) ALL AGES

Hilah Clarke

Children are always welcome in worship. Those who wish to join their peer groups are invited to follow leaders their classrooms after this portion of the service.

ANTHEM *Standin’ In the Need of Prayer* arr. D. M. Cherwien
Sanctuary Choir

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

This week’s “Celebrations & Prayer’s” list is available for you on the front page of our website – <https://firstchurchburlington.org/> - and among the links under the title of the YouTube live stream throughout this morning’s live stream of the worship service.

PASTORAL PRAYER, SILENT PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER (UNISON)

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.

***HYMN OF REFLECTION “From the Crush of Wealth and Power” #552 NCH**

CLIMATE JUSTICE WITNESS

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

