

**South Church in Andover
United Church of Christ**

Order of Worship
The Sacrament of Holy Communion

August 1, 2010

9:30 AM

MEDITATION: “. . . *first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and*
Matthew 5: 22b

offer your gift.”

PRELUDE

Let us Break Bread Together

Charles Callahan

OPENING PSALM (118:24)

THIS is the day that the LORD has made!

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

WELCOME

Terry Ebner

Introduction of visitors and guests

Announcements

Exchange of Peace

The peace of Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

*OPENING HYMN

Woke Up This Morning

I woke up this morning with my mind stayed on Jesus (3x), refrain

Singing and praying with my mind stayed on Jesus (3x), refrain

I woke up this morning thanking God for my freedom (3x), refrain

Refrain: Hallelujah, Hallelu, hallelu, hallelujah, Halle, hallelujah.

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Jennifer Hoenig

The God of all creation invites us to celebrate and worship!

People of all ages, sizes, and colors are invited to share in the banquet of life.

Here we would seek communion; to be one with our God and with each other.

We are sisters and brothers, all children of a loving God, who calls us to gather around the table, to break bread, and to share it with one another.

In the spirit of peace and shalom, we ask God to bless our coming together, that

God's love might unite us in love and service.

Let us worship God!

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Terry Ebner

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Loving God, we know that there are times when we have been unfeeling and uncaring; when we have been arrogant and thought we were better than others. There have been times when we have turned away and not done what was right, even when we knew we should. We are sorry God. Please forgive us. Help us to do justice, love kindness and walk humbly in true communion with you and one another. This we pray in the name of Jesus, who taught his followers to pray, saying. "Our Father . . . (debts)."

PRAYER RESPONSE

Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me;

Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

SCRIPTURE:

Matthew 5: 21-26

Jennifer Hoenig

You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, "You shall not murder"; and "whoever murders shall be liable to judgment." But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, "You fool", you will be liable to the hell of fire. So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

*HYMN

Let Us Break Bread Together

#513 Red

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Reverend Michael Ebner & Terry Ebner

Invitation

God be with you

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to God most high.

Prayer

Sharing of the Bread and the Cup

Unison Prayer of Prayer of Thanksgiving

O God, you have opened wide your hands and satisfied the desire of your living creatures. As we have been invited here, may we be inviting elsewhere. As we have been accepted here, may we be accepting elsewhere. As we have forgiven here, may we be forgiving elsewhere. As we have been so generously provided for, may we be generous in providing for others. Strengthen now our faith in these days, increase our love for one another, and teach us to love you more. Through Jesus we pray. Amen.

Children are invited to follow adult leaders outdoors for
"Gardening, Games, and Gospel Stories."

*HYMN

Lord I Want to Be a Christian

#372 Red

MESSAGE:

Reunions

Terry Ebner

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*HYMN

We Shall Overcome
(those who would like, may come forward to sing)

[in bulletin]

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS IN THANKSGIVING

Terry Ebner

If you have already paid your pledge electronically or in advance, you are invited to submit into the offering plate the green giving card in the pew rack to symbolize your prayer that God will bless your giving and that your gift will support the mission and ministry of the Church in meeting the needs of others and in helping those in need.

Envelopes for the Pastor's Samaritan Fund will be available today, marked "*Love Offering*." Your gift, which is used by the Pastor primarily for our members, is a way to stand with our people in their time of need.

INVITATION

OFFERTORY

The River of Change

James Strathdee

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE

**We give you but your own,
What e'er the gift may be
All that we have is yours alone
We give it gratefully.**

*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Led by Jennifer Hoenig

Reconciling God, let your love flow through these gifts we now give. As your children, strengthened and united by your Spirit, we offer our love and our lives. Let our love be an instrument of peace, an expression of hope, a sign of your presence in the world. In Christ, we pray. Amen.

*BENEDICTION

Terry Ebner

*RESPONSE

This Little Light of Mine

[in bulletin]

*POSTLUDE

Prelude and Fuge

J. S. Bach

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* All who are able, please stand