

SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

October 11 and 14, 2023



*"When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes?"*

*Isaiah 5:4b*



Fox Grapes can be found in the wild throughout North America. While edible, they generally taste sour and contain many seeds.

# Gathering as the Body of Christ

CENTERING SONG

“ SPIRIT OF LIFE ”

UUA 123

## Spirit of Life

123

*♩ = 56 Unison*

Spir - it of Life, come un - to me. Sing in my  
heart all the stir - rings of com - pas - sion. Blow in the  
wind, rise in the sea; move in the hand, giv - ing  
life the shape of jus - tice. Roots hold me close; wings set me  
free; Spir - it of Life, come to me, come to me.

Words & music: Carolyn McDade, 1935- , © 1981 Carolyn McDade,  
harmony by Grace Lewis-McLaren, 1939- , © 1992 Unitarian Universalist  
Association

SPIRIT OF LIFE  
8.12.8.12.8.10.

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GREETING

PRESIDER

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

**STUDENT MINISTER**

God is calling us out of the places we hide,  
out of insecurity, out of shame,  
out from under that which silences love and justice.

**Come out, people of God!**

Our God is a God of resurrection. And so we dare to proclaim,  
with pride and faith, our truths:

**We believe in the power of love.**

We believe in solidarity with the suffering.

**We believe we are each valuable.**

We believe that our togetherness is transformative.

**The world is longing for Holy truths that reveal,  
voices that speak real words of hope.**

**Come out, people of God! Let us worship God!**

**\*OPENING HYMN**

**“GATHER US IN” (v. 1, 2 & 4)**

**URW 54**

**\*CONFESSION & WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

[All are invited to turn toward the Baptismal Font.]

Friends, let us bring to God in confession that which is on our hearts,  
both that which we have done and that which we have knowingly left undone.

Great Creator, we confess that there are ways in which we have failed to follow the  
teachings of your Son. He has shown us The Way we have been called to live, but more  
often than we care to admit we have come up short. We live pridefully, Lord.

**We regard ourselves as superior to your other children. We seek  
to fulfill our own needs before we consider the needs of those other beloved  
children. We see the pain and the needs of others in the world and we look away.  
God we would like to be better, we would like to do better. Help us not only to see  
the path laid before us, but to dare to walk it for all its challenges and difficulties.  
Grant us clarity, courage, and compassion as we strive to walk in Christ’s footsteps  
with humility, Amen.**

(Silent Confession)

Children of God, grace abounds and mercy is extended freely to those who seek it. God is tender, God is just, God forgives us our sins and cleanses us of all that is not right.

**None of God's beloved creation stands beyond God's loving embrace. We are loved, we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.**

**\*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

**STUDENT MINISTER**

You are invited to pass the peace to each other in a way comfortable to you and your neighbor. Be mindful that some of our siblings may prefer non-contact ways of passing the peace, so kindly ask before hugging or shaking hands.

Peace be with you!      **And also with you!**  
Let us share this peace with one another.

*Service of the Word*

**POEM [SAT. ONLY]**

**"MIXED MARRIAGE"**

**PÁDRAIG Ó TUAMA**

*Pádraig Ó Tuama, a gay, Irish, and Catholic man, writes about the redefining of home during the troubles.*

There's no place like home  
but home's not where I am  
home is where I'm safe and sound  
home is where my family's grand

There's no place like home  
and I've lived in a house.  
I got married across the fence  
and I've been called a tout.

And my Protestant friend beside me  
saved me from a petrol bomb  
me with a wee one, six weeks old  
my neighbor's love kept me from harm.

There's no place like love  
and my love's mixed and matched.  
Home from a Protestant and British stock  
and me from the Irish and Catholic stash.

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION****STUDENT MINISTER**

Great Spirit, giver of wisdom, we come seeking truth and guidance. In the words of scripture may we hear whispers of the truth we seek, may it change us in ways we hope for, and in ways we did not know we needed. Amen.

**SCRIPTURE READING****ISAIAH 5:1-7****NRSV**

A reading from the Book of Isaiah, chapter 5, verses 1 through 7.

Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes.

And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes?

Reader And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.

For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting; he expected justice, but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard a cry!

Hear what God is saying to the people. **Thanks be to God!**

**SERMON****REV. RANDY D'ANGELO (OCT 11)****RACHEL COMPTON-MONELL (OCT 14)****PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY****STUDENT MINISTER**

God of all creation, who made the universe and all that is in it, its infinite diversity in infinite combinations testify to your wonder.

**But all is not well in this good creation, Lord.**



There is pain in our midst, angst and anguish and heavy hearts. We bring these before you, asking humbly that you bend your ear that we might share our load with you Great Comforter.

*(Silent prayers offered)*

The Great Physician heals all; broken bodies, broken spirits, nothing is beyond heaven's medicine to cure.

**Relief, we know, is close at hand; God's tender care is for all. May we extend a measure of that love, care, and relief we receive from God unceasingly to those with whom we share this world. Amen.**

## *Service of the Table*

**OFFERTORY SONG**

**INSTRUMENTAL**

**\*THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

The Lord be with you

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, God Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son.

For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

(Elevating each element, or placing hand upon it at appropriate time)

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore, according to his command,

**We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be for us the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

## **INVITATION TO THE TABLE**

**PRESIDER**

Come, for all is now ready. If you wish to partake there are COVID related options printed in your bulletin. Please note that we use grape juice and gluten free bread at this table as a practice of inclusive hospitality. If you are unable to come forward, please signal the ministers and we will come to you at your seat.

Those who prefer not to partake in Communion and wish to receive an interfaith prayer of blessing, we invite you to meet the preacher at the baptismal font.

Those joining us online you are welcome to partake now of whatever food and drink you have with you. We are now united at Christ's table.

Whoever you are and wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here at this table where Christ is the host.

**COMMUNION SONG**

**"O BREAD OF LIFE"**

**NCH 333**

## *Going Forth as the Body of Christ*

**\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**PRESIDER**

We thank you, God, for this holy food that has nourished our bodies and our souls. As we go, fortified by your love, may we bear witness to this love through our words, thoughts, and deeds, especially towards your queerly beloved people, Amen.

**\*CLOSING SONG**

**"QUEERLY BELOVED" AMANDA UDIS-KESSLER (v.1&2)**

**(SEE PAGES 10 & 11 OF THIS BULLETIN)**

**\*BENEDICTION**

[All are invited to turn toward the Preacher at the Baptismal Font.]

**SENDING & POSTLUDE**

*God's love is unending, God's patience is inexhaustible  
God expects great love and patience from us as well  
God's righteous anger we see in scripture is born of our willful refusal to be so  
May we strive for a righteousness that makes God smile*



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**Call to Worship:** <https://enfleshed.com/liturgy/lgbtqia-related/>

**Poem:** Ó Tuama, Padraig. *Sorry for Your Troubles*. Norwich, UK: Canterbury Press Norwich, 2013. 55.

**Communion Liturgy:** [https://www.episcopalchurch.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2021/02/book-of-common-prayer-2006\\_.pdf](https://www.episcopalchurch.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2021/02/book-of-common-prayer-2006_.pdf)  
pp.367-369.

**Closing Song:** “Queerly Beloved,” © Amanda Udis-Kessler, <https://queersacredmusic.com/lgbtq-music-2>

***\*The worship planning team creates all other parts of the liturgy except where noted.***

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**LANCASTER THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY WORSHIP TEAM**

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Rev. Dr. Catherine E. Williams, Advisor*

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**THE WORSHIP TEAM SEEKS:**

*To serve the universal church of our Creator.*

*To minister to the unique and diverse needs of the seminary community.*

*To foster an expansive culture of worship that values difference and challenges the normative.*

# Queerly Beloved

Amanda Udis-Kessler

♩ = 174

9

D A/D G/D A/D G maj7 D/F# Em7 D/F# G

Queer-ly be - lov - ed, we have as - sem - bled, join - ing in won - der, sing - ing in  
 Queer-ly be - lov - ed, we have been hat - ed, treat - ed as out - casts, rag - ged and  
 Queer-ly be - lov - ed, we have dis - cov - ered love that is per - fect, end - ing our

16

A A/G D/F# F#m G Em7 F#m7

praise. Lift - ing our eyes, rais - ing our voi - ces, trust - ing in hope, in  
 rough. Still we per - sist, joy - ous and grate - ful, trust - ing that grace is  
 fear. There is a truth wait - ing to claim us. There is a call so

Biblical references: 1 John 4:18

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 Please share it with pastors, musicians, other worship planners and activists for their possible use. Thank you.

Queerly Beloved

23 G A D D/F# G Bm Em7

love, and in faith. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
 ev - er e - nough. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
 strong and so clear. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -

30 D/F# A sus A D D A/D G/D A/D D 1, 2.

lu - ia, God is great!  
 lu - ia, God is love!  
 lu - ia, God is here!

1, 2.  
 A/D

39 G/D A/D 3. A/D G/D A/D D

rit.