



# Community UCC

*We're worth our words*

Welcoming Progressive Community

*Vibrant Messengers of Hope*



Champaign, Illinois

Worship for Ordinary Time 24B

September 12, 2021

## Thoughts Before Worship:

Today, we're thinking about the sacred nature of rest. What does it tell us that God rested from labor and called it "good"? How might we learn from the way Jesus rested? As we prepare for worship, think about your own relationship to work and rest — how might unplugging from busyness and embracing sabbath regularly enhance your everyday living? If you have requests to add to the prayer list (a public document), go to [community-ucc.org/pray](https://community-ucc.org/pray) (a Google Form), or scan the QR code found in the bulletin.

## Gathering Music

Aaron Ames

## Prelude

## Welcome

Rev. Leah Robberts-Mosser

## Centering Prayer

Be still for a moment.

Close your eyes, if you wish.

Become aware of your breathing,  
the rise and fall of your chest,  
breath filling your lungs,  
and leaving it again.

Feel the rhythm of life

flowing in and around you.

Be still for a moment.

Become aware of your heart beating,  
the flow of blood through your veins,  
the pulse of life  
from your great sacred center.

*We welcome you to our service this morning. Celebrating the diversity of creation, Community United Church welcomes persons of any age, ability, race, gender identity, sexual orientation or life condition. May the Divine Presence become real to you through this time of worship. We hope you come back!*

**Note:** *Our worship services are live streamed. If you prefer not to have the back of your head seen on the live stream worship please do not sit in the first seven pews on the left side (organ/piano) of the sanctuary.*

\*Everyone is invited to stand in body or in spirit.

Be still for a moment  
and worship.

### **Invocation**

Brin Schuler

God-with-us, you beckon our weary souls with this invitation, “Come to me and I will give you rest.” We gather in worship now, seeking your presence, seeking your peace. From the hurry and rush of our everyday lives, may we find comfort here in this Community. Be with us now as we seek to worship you. Gratefully we pray, Amen.

### **Song**

*Gather Us In*

Text and Music by Marty Haugen, Songbook 55  
One License Song #00031, OneLicense#A-734456

### **Children’s Moment**

*Rally Day Celebration!*

Julie McClure and  
Rev. Leah Robberts-Mosser

### **\*Passing of the Peace**

Today, you are invited to remain in your space, turn and greet those around you, make eye contact across the room and flash a peace sign, or say “Peace” in the comments on Zoom or Facebook Live broadcast.

### **Prelude to Scripture**

Whether we take what is written in the Bible as fact, metaphor, myth, or story, let us listen now for the meaning it might hold for us on this day.

### **Sacred Reading from the Original Testament**

Exodus 20:8-11

<sup>8</sup>Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. <sup>9</sup>For six days you shall labour and do all your work. <sup>10</sup>But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. <sup>11</sup>For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

### **Sacred Reading from the Gospels**

Matthew 8:23-27

<sup>23</sup> And when he got into the boat, his disciples followed him. <sup>24</sup>A gale arose on the lake, so great that the boat was being swamped by the waves; but he was asleep. <sup>25</sup>And they went and woke him up, saying, ‘Lord, save us! We are perishing!’ <sup>26</sup>And he said to them, ‘Why are you afraid, you of little faith?’ Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a dead calm. <sup>27</sup>They were amazed, saying, ‘What sort of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him?’

### **Postlude to Scripture**

We conclude this sacred reading with this prayer: May the Spirit bless us with wisdom and wonder as we ponder the meaning of these words for our lives.

## Call to Prayer



After the sermon, we will pray together and offer up our joys and concerns. Your prayer requests will be offered aloud. Whether you are sitting here in the sanctuary, or worshipping with us remotely, you are invited to add your joys and concerns to the prayer list: go to [community-ucc.org/pray](https://community-ucc.org/pray) (a Google Form), or scan the QR code found here.

## Song

### *Come and Find the Quiet Center*

Words Shirley Erena Murrary W&R 477  
CCLI Song #5262632, CCLI License #3154689

*Come and find the quiet center in the crowded life we lead,  
find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed:  
clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes, that we can see  
all the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be.*

*Silence is a friend who claims us, cools the heat and slows the pace,  
God it is who speaks and names us, knows our being, touches base,  
making space within our thinking, lifting shades to show the sun,  
raising courage when we're shrinking, finding scope for faith begun.*

*In the Spirit let us travel, open to each other's pain,  
let our loves and fears unravel, celebrate the space we gain:  
there's a place for deepest dreaming, there's a time for heart to care,  
in the Spirit's lively scheming there is always room to spare!*

## Message

*Holy Rest: What's a Sabbatical and Why does it Matter?*

Rev. Leah Robberts-Mosser

## Silent Meditation

## Ringling of the Singing Bowl

## Call to Offering

"Consider the lilies...look at the birds of the air...." Jesus pulls our attention away from our busyness and our worries about scarcity, then turns our gaze toward the beautiful gifts of God's creation and signs of abundance. Grace surrounds us always! Trust may be difficult for us, as it was for those early disciples, yet we bring our gifts this morning with the assurance of God's care for us every morning of our lives. Let us gather our gifts together and offer them to God in gratitude and praise. Family of faith, you are invited to give your tithes and offerings now, knowing that this is the work of community, this is the work of faith. Let us give. To give, please visit

[www.community-ucc.org](http://www.community-ucc.org) and click donate. If you are worshipping here in the sanctuary, you may also place offerings in the offering plates as you leave the sanctuary. May God bless the gifts and the givers.

## Joys and Concerns

## Pastoral Prayer

## Song

*May the Sending One Defend You*

Brian Wren, Mikkel Thompson NCH 79  
One License Song#26712, One License #A-734456

## Commissioning of the Community

### Commissioning of CUCC's new Faith Community Nurse: Johnalene Radek

#### *Introduction*

We pause on this day to recognize the call and gifts of one among us. The Radeks have only been members of CUCC for less than a year, but early on in their time with us, Johnalene began to learn about the role of Faith Community Nursing within our congregation. Commissioned Minister Linda Morgan has served this congregation for many, many years in that capacity. The Spirit sparked something in Johnalene. She pursued training, completed it, and the CLB appointed her as yet another Faith Community Nurse for our congregation. What blessings overflow! We gather this morning to commission Johnalene and to covenant with her as a church.

There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit gives them.

**There are different ways of serving, but the same God is served.**

There are different abilities to perform service, but the same God gives ability to each of us for our particular service.

**The Spirit's presence is shown in some way in each person for the good of all.**

Christ is like a single body, which has many parts.

**It is still one body even though it is made up of different parts.**

**All of us are Christ's body, and each one is a part of it.**

Historically, the church has been at the center of healing. In the late 19th century, with the advent of modern medicine---anesthesia, sterile surgical techniques, antibiotics, vaccines and other wonderful technology and drugs for diagnosis and treatment, the Church relinquished her role in healing to the scientific community. Today, with the commissioning of our new, additional faith community nurse, Johnalene Radek, this congregation reclaims the understanding that our physical bodies cannot be separated from our intellects, our emotions, our vocations, and our very souls. We join with many other UCC congregations who have made a commitment to reclaim Christ's healing ministry in our broken world. This day marks yet another moment when CUCC affirms its commitment to Christ's commission to go, preach, teach AND heal.

Johnalene, God called your name and with a heart full of compassion you have turned your face toward the sound of God's voice. There is no deeper praise for the One who has called you than your responsiveness to what God has breathed into you and calls you to do.

### *Covenant*

Johnalene, are you willing to be a listening, supportive and healing presence with those to whom you are called to serve as a Faith Community Nurse, seeing in each the dignity and face of Christ. If so, please say, "I am."

Are you ready to work with the Faith Community Nurse and Commissioned Minister Linda Morgan, along with the Health and Wellness Team, Care Team, Pastors, and other groups to share common goals and ambitions, projects and events that promote health of mind, body and spirit? If so, please say, "I am."

Church, I now turn to you: as members of this community of faith, called to work together for healing and wholeness, will you support Johnalene, by your words of encouragement and prayer? If so, please respond, "we will."

### *Laying on of Hands and Prayer*

As the one of the Faith Community Nurses for of our congregation, you will make God's love tangible, offering your healing hands to soothe the anxious, reassuring the fearful, bear their pain, sharing their joy, lifting their faces to God. In your arms our congregation will be held in the arms of God... when the news from the doctor is not so good, when someone feels sad and alone, when someone is facing death, when someone is celebrating. Hold our congregation, Johnalene. Hold them with your hands, your arms, your heart. Let the beat of God's heart determine the rhythm of your ministry. Let the wideness of God's mercy determine the depth of your love.

### **Benediction**

### **Postlude**

**Aaron Ames**

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## Serving Today

**Ministers:** The Community of Community UCC

**Preaching & Presiding:** Rev. Leah Robberts-Mosser

**Liturgist:** Brin Schuler

**Organist:** Aaron Ames

**Audio/Video:** Marilou Hinrichs, Lance Larkin, Roger Wade & David Willcox

## **Community United Church of Christ Staff**

**Pastor:**

Rev. Leah Robberts-Mosser  
leah@community-ucc.org

**Director of Youth Ministries:**

Jessica Smiley | jessica@community-ucc.org

**Commissioned Minister of Congregational Health:**

Linda Morgan | lindamorgan@sbcglobal.net

**Parish Associate:**

Rev. Connie Bandy | connie@community-ucc.org

**Director of Music Ministries:**

Kathy Lee | k.kew.lee@gmail.com

**Organist:** Aaron Ames, Interim Organist

**Office Manager:**

Carla Rush | info@community-ucc.org

## **Your Ministry Team Leaders**

**Moderator:** Elizabeth Shack\*

**Past Moderator:** Jon Ebel\*

**Incoming Moderator:** Erin Ewoldt\*

**Clerk:** Shane Brownfield\*

**Pastoral Relations Committee:** Cara Finnegan

**Personnel Committee:** Anna Barnes

**Community Building:**

Peg Wade\* and Randy Musser

- **Care Team:** Jeff & Tina Stovall
- **Prayer Shawls:** Elena Kasper
- **Meal Train:** Jennifer Robbennolt
- **Driver's Ministry:** John Osborne
- **Card Ministry:** Peg Wade
- **Healing Music Ministry:** Marilou Hinrichs
- **Health and Wellness Team:** Doug Irwin

**Children & Family:** Julie McClure\* and (pending)

**Finance:** Roger Wade\* (treasurer), David Willcox (financial secretary)

**Identity:** Keri Evans\* and (pending)

**Mission:** Jeanne Ward\* and Kristy Brownfield

**Sound & Ethical Practices (SEP):**

Kyle Mahannah and Grant Robbennolt\*

-**Buildings & Grounds:** Tom Ward and Matthew Hart

-**Contracts & Insurance:** Andrew McClure

**UCC Campus Ministry Liaison:** Ilsa Kantola\*

**Worship:** Chase Skye and Susan Pawlicki\*

- **Sound Coordinator:** Roger Wade

\*denotes Church Life Board Member

## United Church Foundation (UCC Campus Ministry)

**Director of Campus Ministry:** Reverend Nate Brantingham | nate@ucccampusministry.org

[www.community-ucc.org/campus-ministry](http://www.community-ucc.org/campus-ministry)

## Community United Church of Christ

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