

~ Welcome Visitors! ~

Guide to the bulletin: An asterisk (*) indicates an invitation to rise in body and/or spirit. Text printed in **BOLD** indicates everyone says them together. **NCH** is the New Century Hymnal next to your pew chair.

Children: Children are always welcome here. We know youth grow – in the love of God and the love of others – when they have opportunities to worship in community. After the Message for All, children are invited to participate in Sunday School, sit by their family in the sanctuary or at the Prayer Ground. There are a variety of quiet activities and fidgets the youth (and adults!) can do available by the sanctuary doors. There is also a Prayer Ground set up at the front of the sanctuary. There are several quiet activities prepared for children. We know many of us need to wiggle a bit to be comfortable. Kids do too!!! Adults are welcome to sit in this area as well! #ChildofGod. You and/or your children are welcome to get up during the service to select something to do.



GATHERING TOGETHER		
Prelude	Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken	Gina Sprunger
Welcome and Community Connections		
Gospel Passage	Matthew 6:21	
Introit	All Are Welcome	Marty Heugen

***Call to Worship**

One: We gather within the covenant of Love,

Many: which connects us to God and to one another.

One: We gather to remember promises:

Many: God's promises to us, and promises we may have made to God.

One: We gather to remember the stories we have heard,

Many: and the stories we tell about those promises.

One: We gather amidst the signs of God's love: the gift of sacred stories, the symbols of cross and candle, the community that assembles around them.

Many: We gather to give thanks for gifts we did not earn and could not build.

One: Let us gather to worship

Many: God as renewal, as restoration, as response, and as challenge.

***Opening Prayer**

Loving God, we would like it if everything were spelled out clearly, so that we knew what to expect; where exactly to go, how exactly to give. But that is not the way life works. Instead, you meet us in stories, told by people who were grateful, and overwhelmed, trying to make sense of the world around them. Give us ears to hear their thanks, and wisdom to hear what they claimed in your name. Show us your true self in these stories, and in our own. Remind us that faith is an ongoing process, born in covenantal relationship with you. Open our hearts today to your love through all generations, and make us faithful keepers of the story. Amen.

***Hymn**

Save Us from a God

(See Insert)

HEARING THE WORD

First Bible Reading

Deuteronomy 6:1-9

Anthem

Where Your Treasure Is

Marty Heugen

Second Bible Reading

Joshua 24:1-15

Message for All

Prayer of Jesus

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.

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Reflection

SHARING OUR LIVES

An Invitation to Reflect on the Stories our Giving Tells

Offertory

Mona Lisa

Lily Shapiro

***Doxology**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God, for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ and Spirit, One. Amen.**

***Prayer of Thanksgiving & Commitment**

One: Covenanting God, we thank you for faith we did not build, for love we did not earn, and for the people who handed both to us.

Many: We are grateful for new chances to give and for all the ways we already do.

One: For those times when giving has been more conspicuous than it has been faithful, more restrained than generous, more half-hearted than joyful, when our stories of you have made you small,

Many: Holy God, forgive and restore us.

One: As we consider our gifts of ourselves, of risk, of newness, and of trust, make us honest about the stories they tell.

Many: Bless the stories we steward, and let our giving show a God whose blessing reaches all the families of the earth.

One: Write your love on our hearts, so that we may share it with others.

Many: We pray that we, and all whom our gifts may bless, would experience your love and faithfulness. Amen.

***Doxology**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God, for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ and Spirit, One. Amen.**

Call to Prayer

Everyone Who Calls

Prayers of the People

During our online worship service, we invite you to type your prayers in the comments section on your screen. Or you can text prayers to Pastor Kris at 608-438-6307. We will collect the petitions and read them during the service. Know that prayers shared this day are public. If you have prayer request you would like to remain private, you may email them to: pastorkris@memorialucc.org and/or pastorpeter@memorialucc.org

GOING OUT TO THE WORLD

***Song for Going Out**

"God Whose Giving Knows No Ending"

NCH 565

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

Gina Sprunger

* Liturgical Material adapted from materials written by Rev. Amber Neuroth for "There Our Hearts Will Be" (The UCC's 2026 Stewardship Theme Materials)

Save us from A God

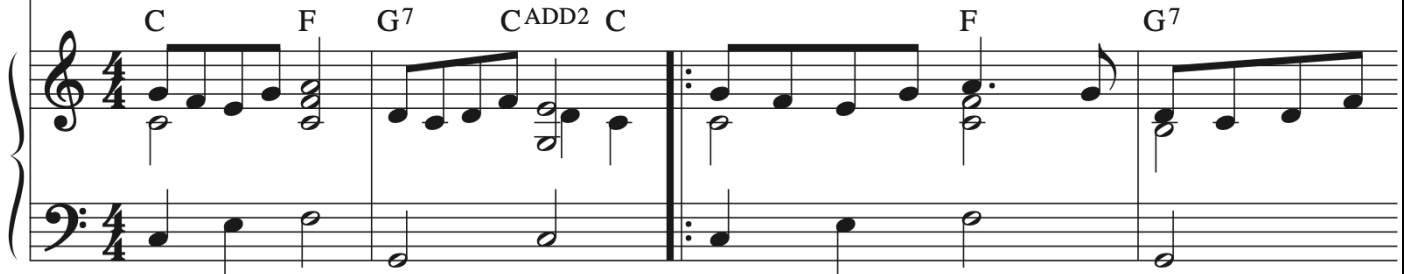
RELIANT • 5 6 8 6 6 8 6

Text: David Bjorlin

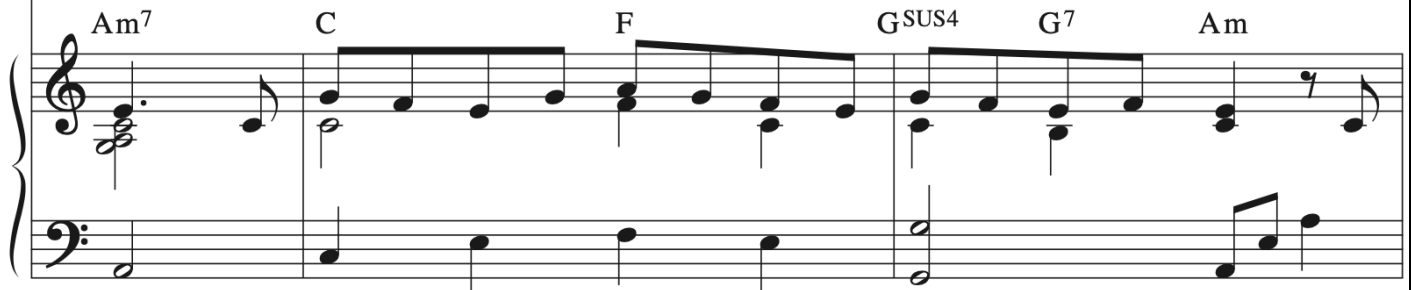
Music: Kate Williams



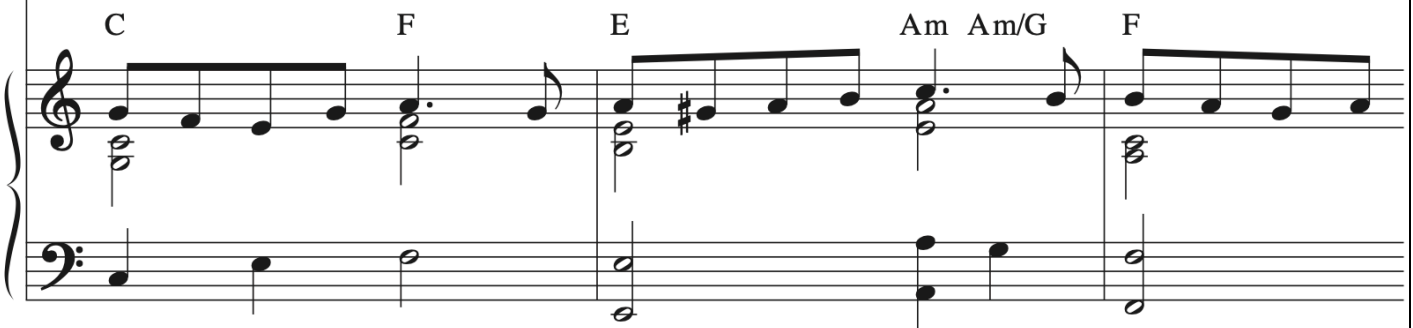
1. Save us from a god of un - re - lent - ing
2. Save us from a god whose fick - le love is
3. Save us from a god who nev - er dis - a -
4. Save us from the gods, the i - dols that we



might who us - es threats of harm and hell, con - trol - ling us with fright. But
earned when all the mor - al deeds are done, and all the bad ones spurned. But
grees, con - firm - ing all our bi - as - es; who on - ly aims to please. But
crave, who prom - ise heath and lib - er - ty but can - not heal or save. But



show us your true self, the Friend who woos with grace, till ev - 'ry wild and
show us your true self, the Love so free - ly poured on thief and saint with-
show us your true self, the Lim - it to our wills who helps us grow by
show us your true self, the Good our hearts pur - sue, un - mask the lies these



will - ful child is held in your em - brace.
out re - straint as gift and not re - ward.
say - ing "no" to ev - 'ry - thing that kills.
gods dis - guise and lead us back to you.

C/E Fmaj⁷ GSUS^{2,4} G C F G C