



Welcome to the Congregational Church on Mercer Island

We strive to be a forward-looking community.

Where God is all-loving and inclusive.

Where people are welcomed and accepted as they are.

Where our minds are nourished as much as our souls.

Where Jesus the healer meets Jesus the revolutionary.

Where together we grow a just and peaceful world.

**ALL HYMNS INCLUDED AT THE END OF THIS
BULLETIN**

Sunday, May 17, 2026, 10:30 a.m.

Prelude

Yuan Zhou

Introit

A Loving Heart

Timothy Bushong

Call to Worship

Rev. Jennifer Castle

Beloved, clothe yourselves in compassion and kindness.

We come, longing to be shaped by love.

Put on humility, gentleness, and patience.

We come, carrying all that we are—joys and burdens alike.

Bear with one another in love. Forgive as you have been forgiven.

We come, seeking grace—for ourselves and for one another.

Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in harmony.

We come to be woven into a community of peace. With gratitude in our hearts, we worship God.

Opening Hymn

#459

Lord, You Give the Great Commission
(V1, 2, & 5)

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Jennifer Castle

Passing of the Peace

Rev. Jennifer Castle

Hymn

#526

The Gift of Love

Scripture Reading

Colossians 3: 12-17

Read by Jinny Sewall

Therefore, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Almighty through him.

ReadingExcerpt from *You Are The Beloved* by Henri Nouwen

Read by Jinny Sewall

"Nothing is sweet or easy about community. Community is a fellowship of people who do not hide their joys and sorrows but make them visible to each other as a gesture of hope...Community is like a large mosaic. Each little piece seems so insignificant. One piece is bright red, another cold blue or dull green, another warm purple, another sharp yellow, another shining gold. Some look precious, others ordinary. Some look valuable, others worthless. Some look gaudy, others delicate. We can do little with them as individual stones except compare them and judge their beauty and value. When, however, all these little stones are brought together in one big mosaic, portraying the face of Christ, who would ever question the importance of any one of them? If one of them, even the least spectacular one, is missing, the face is incomplete. Together in the one mosaic, each little stone is indispensable and makes a unique contribution to the glory of God. That's community, a fellowship of little people who together make God visible in the world."

Sermon

"Clothed in Love"

Rev. Jennifer Castle

Anthem

Where There Is Love

Karen Crane

Prayers

Holy One beyond all Names, Eternal Wellspring, may love rise again in us today with food for every table, shelter for every family, and reverence for every life. Forgive us our failings in love and free us from all falseness, that the light of our souls may shine, and the strength of our spirits endure, for Earth and all its people this day, tonight, and forever. Amen

Closing Hymn

Thank Our God for Sisters, Brothers

Blessing

Rev. Jennifer Castle

Upcoming Events:

Tuesdays, 2:00 pm on Zoom – Bible Study via Zoom
Thursdays, 7:00 pm – Choir Rehearsal – ALL WELCOME

May 17, 10:30 am – Scout Sunday
May 18, 7:00 pm – Council Meeting
May 20, 7:00 pm – Wild Church
May 24, 11:30 am - Sandwich Making (Operation Nightwatch)
May 28, 4:30 pm – Pixie Hill Art Exhibit
June 1, 6:00 pm – Mercer Island High School Baccalaureate
June 7, 7:00 pm – The Peace meditative gathering

PLEASE NOTE THAT CHILDCARE IS AVAILABLE UPSTAIRS

Bring your children up, we'd love to look after them during worship!

To make a gift to the church, scan the QR code below with the camera on your smartphone and you will be directed to the appropriate link on the church website. Thank you!



Pastor

Music Director

Administrator

Rev. Jennifer Castle

Deeji Killian

Janet Morris

4545 Island Crest Way, Mercer Island, WA 98040

office@ucc-ccmi.org 206-232-7800 www.ucc-ccmi.org

459 Lord, You Give the Great Commission

1. Lord, you give the great com - mis - sion: "Heal the sick and
 2. Lord, you call us to your ser - vice: "In my name bap -
 3. Lord, you make the com - mon ho - ly: "This my bod - y,
 4. Lord, you show us love's true mea - sure: "Fa - ther, what they
 5. Lord, you bless with words as - sur - ing: "I am with you

1. preach the word." Lest the church ne - glect its mis - sion,
 2. tize and teach." That the world may trust your prom - ise,
 3. this my blood." Let us all, for earth's true glo - ry,
 4. do, for - give." Yet we heard as pri - vate trea - sure
 5. to the end." Faith and hope and love re - stor - ing,

1. and the gos - pel go un - heard, help us wit - ness
 2. life a - bun - dant meant for each, give us all new
 3. dai - ly lift life heav - en - ward, ask - ing that the
 4. all that you so free - ly give. May your care and
 5. may we serve as you in - tend and, a - mid the

1. to your pur - pose with re - newed in - teg - ri - ty.
 2. fer - vor, draw us clos - er in com - mu - ni - ty.
 3. world a - round us share your chil - dren's lib - er - ty.
 4. mer - cy lead us to a just so - ci - e - ty.
 5. cares that claim us, hold in mind e - ter - ni - ty.

Refrain

With the Spir - it's gifts em - power us for the work of min - is - try.

The Gift of Love

526

1. Though I may speak with brav - est fire,
 2. Though I may give all I pos - sess,
 3. Come, Spir - it, come, our hearts con - trol,

and have the gift to all in - spire,
 and striv - ing so my love pro - fess,
 our spir - its long to be made whole.

and have not love, my words are vain,
 but not be given by love with - in,
 Let in - ward love guide ev - ery deed;

as sound - ing brass, and hope - less gain.
 the prof - it soon turns strange - ly thin.
 by this we wor - ship, and are freed.

WORDS: Hal H. Hopson, 1972
 MUSIC: Traditional English melody; adapt. Hal H. Hopson, 1972
 © 1972 Hope Publishing Co.

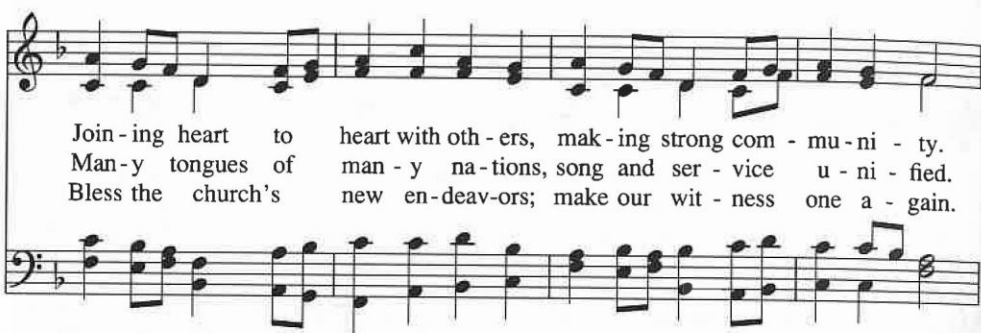
GIFT OF LOVE
 LM

Alt. tune: O WALY WALY

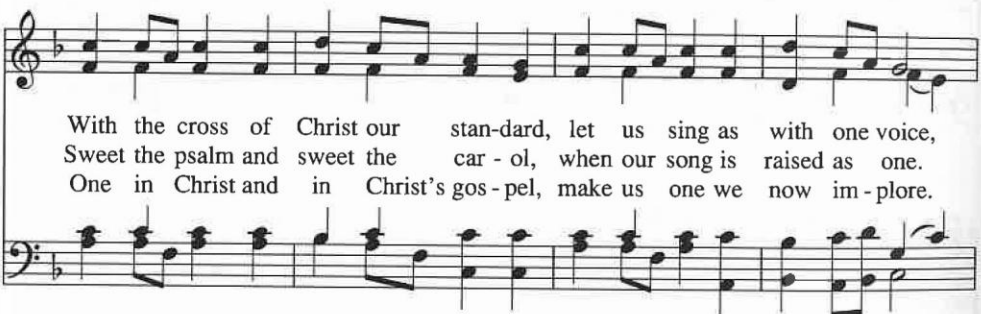
Thank Our God for Sisters, Brothers

Roger Powell, 1948; alt.

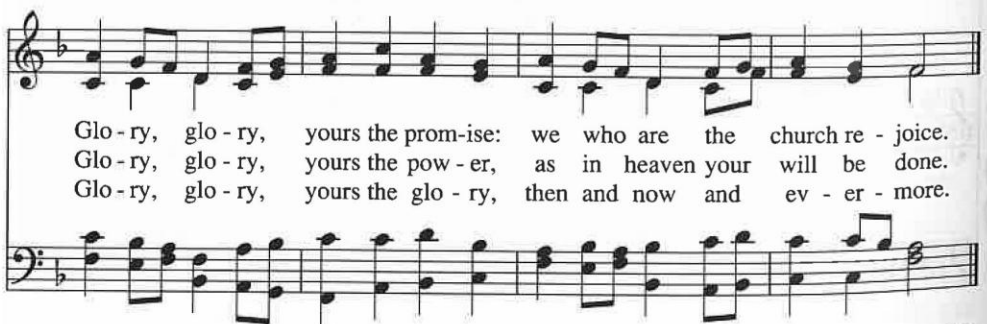

1 Thank our God for sis - ters, broth - ers, one by grace, in har - mo - ny,
 2 Praise to God for con - gre - ga - tions, keep - ing faith with Christ as guide;
 3 Ho - ly is your name for - ev - er! Heal di - vi - sions that re - main;



Join - ing heart to heart with oth - ers, mak - ing strong com - mu - ni - ty.
 Man - y tongues of man - y na - tions, song and ser - vice u - ni - fied.
 Bless the church's new en - deav - ors; make our wit - ness one a - gain.



With the cross of Christ our stan - dard, let us sing as with one voice,
 Sweet the psalm and sweet the car - ol, when our song is raised as one.
 One in Christ and in Christ's gos - pel, make us one we now im - plo - re.



Glo - ry, glo - ry, yours the prom - ise: we who are the church re - joi - ce.
 Glo - ry, glo - ry, yours the pow - er, as in heaven your will be done.
 Glo - ry, glo - ry, yours the glo - ry, then and now and ev - er - more.

This hymn was written for a Union Thanksgiving service in 1948 by the Rev. Roger Powell of Camillus, New York. It served as a rallying song for the first meeting of the National Council of Churches in 1952.

Tune: PLEADING SAVIOR 8.7.8.7.D.
 Melody from *The Christian Lyre*, 1831