Welcome to worship this morning and thank you for joining us!

We believe that God calls us to love unconditionally, following the example of Jesus Christ. Recognizing that all people are equal in the sight of God, we seek to be an inclusive and respectful community for persons of every color, age, sexual orientation, gender, ability and economic means. In our calling to express the love and welcome of Christ, we affirm the dignity and worth of every person, and declare ourselves to be an Open and Affirming congregation. We strive to respond to the needs of our town and world with practical deeds of love. We welcome individuals and families of every configuration into the full life and ministry of this church. Join us on our faith journey!

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE Now the Green Blade Rises – tune: NOEL NOUVELET; music: Michael Larkin

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT Now the Green Blade Rises – words by John M. C. Crum, tune NOEL NOUVELET

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: This is the day!
All: This is the day!
One: That the Lord has made.
All: That the Lord has made.
One: Let us rejoice!
All: Let us rejoice!
One: And be glad in it!
All: And be glad in it! Amen.*

OPENING HYMN: “Earth and All Stars”

PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison)
Oh God, we thank you for music. The psalmist taught us the poetry of praise. Hymns and songs of praise give us words of thanksgiving and praise to honor you. Musicians sew together words and music, and add beauty to the sounds of worship. Bless, oh God, our songs of praise today. And may our lives sing your praises every day. Amen

TIME WITH CHILDREN
PRAISE RESPONSE
Ha-le, ha-le, hal-le-lu-jah,
Ha-le, ha-le, hal-le-lu-jah,
Ha-le, ha-le, hal-le-lu-jah.
Hallelujah, hallelujah. (x2)

SOLO: Faith of Our Mothers – text: A.B. Patten; tune ST. CATHERINE by Henri Frederick Hemy

- Sarah Clark, soprano

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 98

SERMON: "Sing a New Song!"

HYMN: “To God Compose a Song of Joy”

MORNING PRAYER
Sharing of Joys and Concerns
Pastoral Prayer
The Lord’s Prayer
Our Mother, who is in heaven and within us, we call upon your names. Your wisdom come, your will be done, in all the spaces in which you dwell. Give us each day sustenance and perseverance. Remind us of our limits as we give grace to the limits of others. Separate us from the temptation of empire and deliver us into community. For you are the dwelling place within us, the empowerment around us, and the celebration among us, now and forever. Amen.

CELEBRATING OUR GIFTS & OFFERINGS
The Invitation to the Offering
Offertory Music: Come Away to the Skies – tune: MIDDLEBURY; music: Michael Larkin

Prayer of Dedication

CLOSING HYMN: “Sing a New Song”

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE This Joyful Eastertide – tune: VRUECHTEN; music: Michael Larkin

Church Vision Statement,
adopted February 2017:
At the UCC Burlington, we cultivate a thriving environment, which empowers us to embody the beloved, diverse community that Jesus modeled for us, proclaiming that all are welcome, all are loved. We celebrate our colonial roots as we change, adapt and grow into who God is calling us to be. We respect the sanctity of each person’s spiritual journey and we are blessed by the gifts that each person brings to the life of the church. We join together in faithful service and advocacy with the ongoing hope that we can make the world a better, more just, and peaceful place for everyone.

In 2021, UCC Burlington will focus on healing and recovery as our church goals for the year. We will work together, across the generations, to heal physical, emotional, and social wounds that have collectively injured us. We will support one another in our mutual healing so that we can recover as stronger and more faithful followers of Christ. This is inspired by the scripture from Micah 7:8, “When I fall, I shall rise; when I sit in darkness, the Lord will be a light to me.”

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Interim Pastor, Rev. Ginger Bove
Joe Stoddard, Jr.-Director of Music
Deb Raymond-Director of Christian Ed
Bobbie Killilea-Administrative Asst.
PRAYER CONCERNS
Elaine Glancy-surgery went well!
Alan Wright’s cousin Tim
Ron Downing
Barbara Moran
Rev. David and Sally Smith and extended family
Joyce Carpenter
Lynn Tirrell
Anne Stafford, son Bill very ill!
and grandson Zach
Luella Brown
Claire Simas
Joe Stoddard’s Mom, Lillian
Paul Mouratidis’ Mom and Dad
Dave Ieradi’s Dad and son Dano
Kari Lynch’s aunt Evelyn, and brother-in-law
Marj Zamanian's son-in-law's friend
Brendon
Sue Wisniewski’s Dad
Wynelle Scenna
Scott Carpenter
Howie & Charlotte Blaney’s daughter-in-law Carey
Kelly Sievert’s brother, Geoff
Mark Flecchia’s mother Vivian
Jean Bastos
Rev. Elizabeth King
Jan Blandino
Bobbie Martino
Barbara Garland
Jessy McNeil’s brother Mel and sister Grace
Henry Knopp
Dot Drinkwater
Everett Langley’s brother George
John Heald’s sister Susan & Mom
Jim Mungillo

If any are doing better please let us know if we can remove from our prayer list

Our First Responders! Our caregivers!
Urgent Care workers!
Military here and abroad!
BE SAFE!

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

May 9 Worship via Zoom at 10:30am (Happy Mother’s Day)
Pastor: Interim Pastor Rev. Ginger Bove
Organist: Joe Stoddard, Jr.
Lay Leader: Marcia Rich
Music: Sarah Clark
Sunday School: Deb Raymond

May 16 Worship via Zoom at 10:30am
Pastor: Interim Pastor Rev. Ginger Bove
Organist: Joe Stoddard, Jr.
Lay Leader: Deb Glancy
Music: Mark Omobono
Sunday School: Deb Raymond

PASTORAL NEEDS
If you have a pastoral emergency please feel free to contact Interim Pastor
Rev. Ginger Bove at vbove13@aol.com or any of our Deacons

Happy Mother’s Day to all those Moms, Grandmothers, Stepmothers, Godmothers, Aunts, Friends, Caregivers that have made a difference in our lives.

SOCIAL GATHERING AT UCC
Our first Social Gathering will TOOK place
Wednesday, May 5. We met inside Sewall Hall. It was so nice to have a Face-to-face for chatting!

The next gathering will take place on
Wednesday, May 19th at 9:30am outside on the church lawn, weather permitting.
If you would like to join us, contact Chris Stahlinski at cmlynch51@yahoo.com

If you have any topics you would like to host for a gathering, let us know!
**DONATIONS NEEDED!**
The Lowell Transitional Life Center is always in need of the following for Spring and Summer:

**Specific items needed for just MEN:**
Jeans, t-shirts, hoodies, socks, underwear, sneakers

Leave these items under the coatrack right inside the red doors to our building. They are still in need of warm clothing! Drop off to the church office. **Clothing will be delivered MID-MAY.**

**BURLINGTON PANTRY NEEDS**

In 2020 People Helping People supplied food and toiletries to 1,177 families. For the month of April the Pantry needs the items listed below. You may deliver these items to the storage container in the parking lot at Saint Mark’s Church any day of the week up until sunset.

Items requested for May are:

- Jasmine and Basmati Rice, Coffee, Pasta and Sauce
- Any type of shampoo, toothpaste, tissues and dish soap is always welcome!
- And lastly, all size diapers from newborn to 5T and baby wipes.

We thank you as always for being so generous to others!

**CHILDREN’S MINISTRY!**

The Sunday school kids are having their own Fund-raising walk on May 23rd. They chose World Wildlife Fund, a non-profit organization. This organization saves endangered species including the Polar Bear and the rain forests. They will walk the paths of Burlington common to raise funds for WWF. WWF’s use of science and technology for conservation has allowed them to protect many species.

If you would like to sponsor the kids in their effort, you may make a donation to the Fund by leaving it at the church office or send to:

UCC Burlington,
6 Lexington St.
Burlington, MA 01803
**Checks made out to WWF.**
(We will include your donation with the kids’ donations.)

Thank you!

Any questions to Deb Raymond Cell: 857-373-9156 or angelfoods@msn.com
These times,  
they are a-changing...

By now, you’ve probably received the letter from Angela announcing her intention to take a role at the Naples UCC church in Florida. While we respect her decision to be closer to family, it is a loss for our congregation.

It is important to keep in mind that our church is nearly 300 years old, and has had a wide range of pastors throughout the centuries. We find ourselves at a new transition, and it is a time of inward reflection, determining what kind of church we are, and what kind of church we want to be.

To that end, it is time to find an interim pastor. For that, we need an interim selection committee. Historically, that has consisted of 5 people (and one alternate) who would meet, interview, and choose an interim pastor. Our target for committee selection is the end of May. This will allow the committee to start meeting in June, so as to have enough time to find an interim pastor to join us in the Fall.

We also need to find 9 more people for the settled pastor committee, but that is at least a year away.

As someone who served on the settled pastor selection committee previously, I can tell you that it is a very involved, but very rewarding experience. I am honored to have been given the opportunity to serve in such a capacity and hope you will consider the possibility for serving on one of the committees.

In the next two weeks, we will be reaching out to people, but if you are interested, please reach out to our moderator, Sally Willard, directly at moderator@uccburlington.org.

If you have any questions about either committee, feel free to reach out to Sally or myself at dmichaelllewis@gmail.com, and I will be happy to answer any questions you have.

Sincerely,  
Michael Lewis
Earth and All Stars

1. Earth and all stars, loud rushing planets
2. Trumpet and pipes, loud clashing cymbals
3. Steel and machines, loud pounding hammers sing to the
4. Classrooms and labs, loud boiling test tubes
5. Knowledge and truth, loud sounding wisdom

Hail, wind, and rain, loud blowing

Lord a new song! Lime-stone and beams, loud humming

Refrain

snow-storm cellos

work-ers sing to the Lord a new song! God has done

people members

marvelous things. We will sing praises with a new song!

WORDS: Herbert E. Brokering (1926- ), alt.
MUSIC: David N. Johnson (1922-1987)
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EARTH AND ALL STARS
4.5.7.4.5. Ref.
To God Compose a Song of Joy

Ruth Duck, 1986

Ps. 98

1 To God compose a song of joy; to God make melody,
2 Before the nations God reveals a just and righteous will,
3 In every corner of the earth, God comes to save and free;
4 With trumpet, with the sound of horns, with strings, yes, with the lyre,

Whose arm of strength does wondrous things, whose hand brings victory!
Remembering in faithful love the house of Israel.
Break forth with shouts of holy joy; all lands, make melody.
With voices praise the sovereign God, a lusty, joyous choir.

5 Let seas in all their fullness roar;
sing, people of all lands;
Let mountains join and sing for joy;
let rivers clap their hands.

6 The God of justice comes to save;
let earth make melody;
For God will judge with righteousness
and rule with equity.

Ruth Duck is associate professor of worship and dean
of the chapel at Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary
in Evanston, Illinois. A minister in the United Church of Christ,
she has edited several books of worship resources and hymns.

Tune: RICHMOND C.M.
Thomas Haweis, 1792

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Sing a New Song

Refrain
Sing a new song unto the Lord; let your song be sung from mountains high. Sing a new song unto the Lord, singing alleluia.

Verses
1. Shout with gladness! Dance for joy! O come before the Lord. And play for God on now has come. He has turned your of the Lord. The trumpet sounds; the glad tambourines, and let your trumpet sound. sorrow to joy, and filled your soul with song. dead shall be raised. I know my Savior lives.

Text: Based on Psalm 98:1, 4-6; Dan Schutte, b. 1947
Tune: Dan Schutte, b. 1947
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