



Sanctuary

Prelude

"A Thanksgiving Prelude" by Charles Callahan

Welcome

Nick Lentino

Open and Affirming Statement

We believe in a loving God, who through Jesus Christ has called us to love and affirm all God's children.

We welcome to full life and ministry all persons regardless of mental and physical ability, sexual identity, race, religious background, or economic status.

By the power of the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to respect and support gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender persons, who often have been excluded from the life of the church.

We stand together seeking justice, healing and wholeness of life for all, thus becoming an open and affirming congregation.

Greeting One Another

Prayer of Invocation

Hymn (A Sanctuary Song from Tex Moser)

Now Bless the God of Israel

NCH #110



Scripture

Luke 1:68-79

Kimberly Figueroa

Psalm 46, responsive

**Note:** This psalm presents the word "Selah" three times. While there are several interpretations of the word, we will claim the one that means, "Lift Up." So, each time the word "Selah" is spoken, we may lift up a hand and say the words, "We Will Not Fear."

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

**Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.**

**Selah "We will not fear!"**

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

**God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved; God will help it when the morning dawns.**

The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter; God speaks, the earth melts;

**The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.**

**Selah "We will not fear!"**

Come, behold the works of the Holy One; see the desolations brought upon the earth. God makes wars cease to the end of the earth; breaks the bow, shatters the spear; and burns the shields with fire.

**"Be still, and know that "I Am!" "I Am" is exalted among the nations, "I Am" is exalted in the earth."**

The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

**Selah "We will not fear!"**

Reflection

Rev. Chuck Morkin

Anthem

"All Good Gifts" (Godspell) by Stephen Schwartz



## Sharing in Prayer

### The Lord's Prayer

*All are invited to speak the Lord's prayer in the language and wording you know it or read this revised version.*

Mother of us all,

who dwells within and beyond,

Sacred is your name.

May your holy vision for collective flourishing  
come to fruition among us.

May your dreams of justice, love, compassion, and connection be enfolded on earth.

Provide us today with what we need to be nourished in body, soul, and heart.

Forgive us for the harm we cause as we seek to forgive those who have harmed us.

Lead us away from everything that destroys and liberate us from the hands of evil.

For you are the ultimate source of hope.

Your power-with exceeds all power-over.

Your presence incites eternal wonder.

All praise to you, our comfort and strength.

**Amen.**

### Refrain

***O Lord hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer, When I call, answer me;  
O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer, Come and listen to me.***



### Sending

#### Announcements

*Thank you for donating what you are able to sustain and expand the ministries of South Church UCC. We will pass the plate during announcements, or you can give online at [soco.ch.org/donate](http://soco.ch.org/donate). Your presence is itself an offering.*

#### Hymn

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You

NCH #4

#### Prayer of Benediction

**Hope is our divine birthright. The Creator of all that is bore us, believes in us, dwells within us.**

**Made in the image of love, we are called to live in the directions of collective flourishing.**

**Go in the assurance that the Spirit will companion us as we companion one another.**

#### Postlude

"Now Thank We All Our God" by Wilbur Held

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Thank you to South Church Member and UCC Minister Chuck Morkin for leading worship and preaching this morning!  
The Lord's Prayer revised version and the Prayer of Benediction are written and shared by **enfleshed | [enfleshed.com](http://enfleshed.com)**

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