

*Soli Deo Gloria*



**C U S P**  
**CHRISTIANS UNITING  
IN SONG & PRAYER**

# **COMMUNITY–WIDE WORSHIP SERVICE**

*Observing the*  
**International Week of Prayer  
for Christian Unity**



Sunday, January 22, 2023, 5:00 PM  
14th Street Christian Reformed Church  
Holland, Michigan



*A gathering of  
Christians Uniting in Song and Prayer  
[CUSP]*

***Christians Uniting in Song and Prayer (CUSP)*** is successor to the team that organized and presented five events in October, 2017, commemorating the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. CUSP is best described by its mission statement:

In the crucified and risen Christ we are reconciled to God and to one another.

This is at the heart of the Christian message to which the Church is called to give witness in the world. Deep and painful divisions among its members today, however, obscure this message and therefore compromise its witness.

Out of a shared commitment to overcome these divisions, CUSP was formed. Located in the Holland community, we are a fellowship of Protestants and Catholics convinced that Christians joining in public assembly to sing and pray together can help to restore and promote our unity. Our conviction is rooted in the acknowledgment that Christian unity is both gift and task. In celebrating together our common faith, we recover a vision of the inestimable gift that God has granted to us in Christ. Renewed thereby in our appreciation of this gift, we go out energized to take up the difficult task of reconciling with fellow Christians whose differences keep us separated.

### **Participants**

Worship Leader: Rev. Benjamin Petroelje

Homilist: Rev. Jen Adams

Readers: Angel Lopez, Alissa Shabaz,

Rev. Anna Erickson

Cantor: Ben Pohlman

The Holland Ecumenical Choir

A division of CUSP

Music Director: Robert J. Batastini

Organist: Rhonda Sider Edgington

The DeSales Brass: Jack Bender, director

Participants, including singers and instrumentalists, are from the following area churches: Baldwin Street CRC, Christ Memorial Church, Church of the Savior, Graafschap CRC, Hope Church, First Presbyterian Church (Ionia), First United Methodist, Fourteenth Street CRC, Grace Episcopal, Maranatha CRC, Otsego United Methodist Church, Pillar Church, St. Francis de Sales, St. John's Episcopal, St. Mary's Catholic (GR), St. Peter's Catholic (Douglas), Second Reformed (Zeeland), Third Reform Church, Trinity Reformed

**Special Thanks** to Fourteenth Street Christian Reformed Church, Rev. Benjamin Petroelje, pastor, for their gracious hospitality, and to GIA Publications Inc., of Chicago for designing and printing this program. [www.giamusic.com](http://www.giamusic.com)

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*As we exit this service, a collection will be taken up to support the work of CUSP. This is our primary source of revenue.*

**Christians Uniting in Song and Prayer** will next gather for *Songs and Prayers from Taizé* on Monday, April 3rd, 7pm, to join in prayer during Holy Week. Saint Francis de Sales Church will be our host.

Christians Uniting in Song and Prayer • 129 East 33rd Street • Holland, Michigan 49423  
[www.cuspholland.org](http://www.cuspholland.org) [info@cuspholland.org](mailto:info@cuspholland.org)

**At least once a year**, Christians remember Jesus' prayer for his disciples that "they may be one so that the world may believe" (John 17:21). In response Christians come together to pray for the unity of the Church. Congregations and parishes all over the world exchange preachers or arrange special ecumenical celebrations and prayer services. The occasion for this special experience is the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

The traditional period in the northern hemisphere for the Week of Prayer is January 18 to 25. Those dates were proposed in 1908 by Paul Wattson because they coincide with the feasts of the Chair of St. Peter and the Conversion of St. Paul, which he considered to have symbolic significance for Christian unity. In the southern hemisphere churches have chosen other periods to celebrate the Week of Prayer, often around Pentecost, which is also a symbolic date for the unity of the Church.

Continuing the tradition, the World Council of Churches and the Roman Catholic Church have been inviting their ecumenical partners to provide liturgical texts based on a biblical theme to guide the Week of Prayer since 1968. For 2023 they chose a group of Christians from the Minnesota Council of Churches of the United States of America (USA) for this task.

Minnesota has been the site of some of the most egregious racial atrocities in the United States. In 1862, it witnessed the largest mass execution in the nation's history, when 38 members of the Dakota Indigenous people were hanged in Mankato, the day after Christmas. As they were led to the gallows, they sang the hymn *Wakantanka taku nitawa* ("Many and Great, O God, are your works, maker of earth and sky").

More recently, Minnesota became the epicenter of racial reckoning, when in May 2020, only a few months after the Covid-19 outbreak, a black man, George Floyd, Jr., was murdered at the hands of a white police officer named Derek Chauvin in Minneapolis. The grisly scene was captured on a cell phone camera by 17-year-old high school student Darnelle Frazier, who uploaded the video to Facebook. The post went viral, causing mass demonstrations to erupt in streets throughout the world in outrage at the act of violence against Floyd by Chauvin and fellow police officers, who stood by and watched passively. Chauvin, who was dismissed immediately after the attack, would become the first police officer in modern history convicted for murdering a black man.

Racially-motivated violence has been a tragic theme in American history. In recent times, more and more citizens have expressed shared concern about this longstanding problem, which threatens the political unity and stability of this nation. The problem has not spared the churches, which increasingly acknowledge racial issues as a regrettable source of their historical divisions. Given these realities, prayer for Christian unity, especially during the Week of Prayer for Christian unity, is certainly relevant in the American context.

The Minnesota Council of Churches, composed of a diverse group of clergy and lay leaders inclusive of Indigenous and African American peoples, have been actively engaged in these issues. Consequently, they have chosen as this year's theme "Do Good; seek justice," a command that God gives to the covenant people through the prophet Isaiah (Isa. 1:17). It is a theme that certainly applies to the struggle for Christian unity against racial injustice.

Our service is celebrated in solidarity with our fellow Christians in Minnesota. At the same time, we have adapted the liturgy to express the realities in our own context here in Holland. May God's Spirit unite our hearts as we worship God together!

### Preludes (*Remain seated*)

- *The DeSales Brass*
- *There Is One Lord – Sung several times, alternating English and Spanish.*

Ostinato Refrain

There is one Lord, one faith, one bap - tis - m,  
 Hay un Se - ñor, u - na fe, un bau - tis - mo,

There is one God who is Fa - ther of all.  
 Un so - lo Dios, quien es Pa - dre de to - dos.

Text: Ephesians 4, Taizé Community, 1984  
 Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994  
 © 1984, 2007, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

### GATHERING HYMN

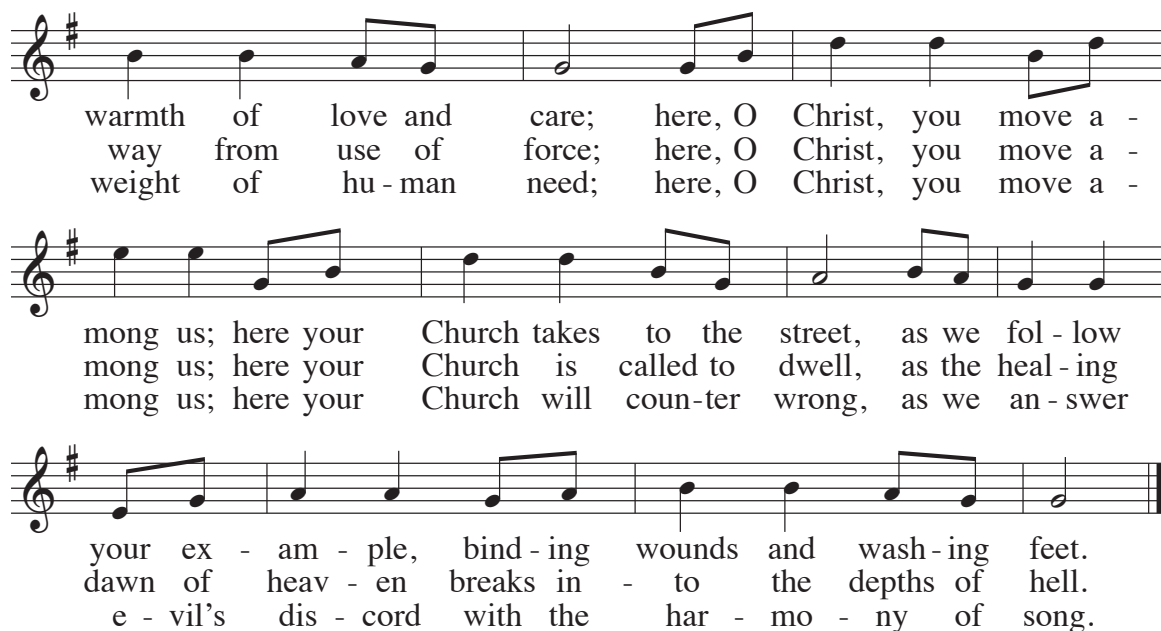
*All please rise*

**HYMN:** Where the Joys and Hopes of Living

*Stanza two will be sung by the choir alone.*

1. Where the joys and hopes of liv - ing loose the shack - les  
 2. Where the na - tions join to - geth - er, turn - ing from their  
 3. Where the world is sore and bro - ken, crushed by thirst for

of de - spair; where the home - less and af - flict - ed find the  
 war - ring course; where the path of peace with jus - tice leads a -  
 pow'r and greed; where the might - y seem in - dif - f'rent to the



warmth of love and care; here, O Christ, you move a -  
 way from use of force; here, O Christ, you move a -  
 weight of hu - man need; here, O Christ, you move a -

mong us; here your Church takes to the street, as we fol - low  
 mong us; here your Church is called to dwell, as the heal - ing  
 mong us; here your Church will coun - ter wrong, as we an - swer

your ex - am - ple, bind - ing wounds and wash - ing feet.  
 dawn of heav - en breaks in - to the depths of hell.  
 e - vil's dis - cord with the har - mo - ny of song.

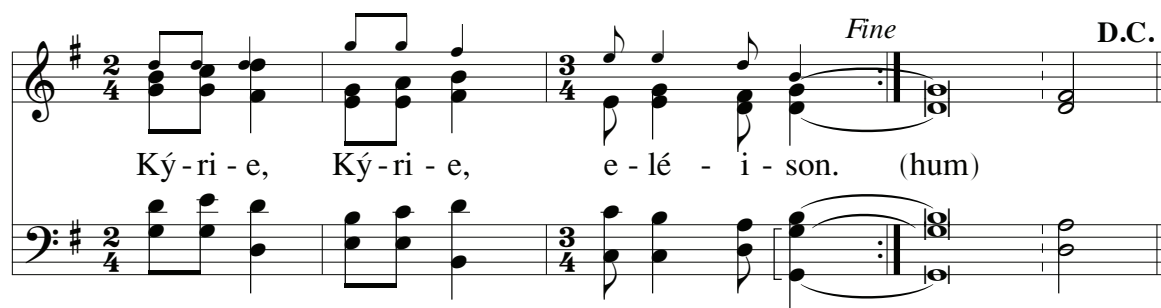
Text: Adam M. L. Tice, b.1979  
 Tune: BROCKINGTON, 8 7 8 7 D; Norah Duncan IV  
 © 2015, GIA Publications, Inc.

## WORDS OF WELCOME

*Leader:* The Lord be with you.

*All:* And also with you.

## PRAYERS OF PARDON AND RECONCILIATION



Ký - ri - e, Ký - ri - e, e - lé - i - son. (hum)

*Fine* **D.C.**

Music: Jacques Berthier, © 1980, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

*(at the conclusion)*

*Leader:* Almighty God, hear our prayers, have mercy on us and forgive our sins.

*All:* Amen.

## SIGN OF PEACE

*Leader:* Christ has given us peace that surpasses all understanding.

The peace of Christ be with you.

*All:* And also with you.

**PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD OF GOD**

*All are seated*

**First Reading – Isaiah 1:12-18**

*At the conclusion:*

*Reader:* The word of the Lord.

*All:* **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 51**

Mi - se - ri - cor - dia, Se - ñor, he - mos pe - ca - do,  
 Be mer - ci - ful, O Lord, for we have sinned,

he - mos pe - ca - do.  
 for we have sinned.

Text: Refrain, *Lectionary for Mass*, © 1969, 1981, 1997, ICEL; Psalm 51: *The Revised Grail Psalms*, © 2010, Conception Abbey and The Grail, admin. GIA Publications, Inc.  
 Music: John Schiavone, © 2004, GIA Publications, Inc.

**Second Reading – Ephesians 2:13-22**

*At the conclusion:*

*Reader:* The word of the Lord.

*All:* **Thanks be to God.**

*All stand*

**Alleluia – Sung by the choir, then repeated by all.**

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Music: Alleluia 7; Jacques Berthier, © 1984, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

### **Gospel – Matthew 25:31-40**

*Leader:* The Lord be with you.

*All:* **And also with you.**

*At the conclusion :*

*Reader:* The gospel of the Lord.

*All:* **Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **Homily** *All are seated*

### **Choral Anthem:** *If Jesus Is Come — Adam Tice / Sally Ann Morris*

If Jesus is come, let warfare be ended. If Jesus is come, let violence cease.  
If Jesus is come, let earth begin healing, for he is Messiah, the Prince of Peace.

If Jesus is come, the poor are called blessed. If Jesus is come, the rich have been cursed.  
If Jesus is come, the weak will inherit, the weak will be strong, and the last will be first.

If Jesus is come, let no one go hungry. If Jesus is come, let no one be ill.  
If Jesus is come and still dwells among us, then we have been summonsed to seek God's will.

Gloria! Gloria in excelsis Deo.

If Jesus is come, find homes for the homeless. If Jesus is come, call enemies "friend."  
If Jesus is come, let no one be cast out, for all of God's people are ours to tend.

If Jesus is come, what tongue can describe it? If Jesus is come, then all things are new.  
If Jesus is come, the Spirit will guide us; if we believe, then there's work to do.

*If Jesus Is Come*, Adam Tice, © 2013 GIA Publications, Inc.

## PROFESSION OF FAITH AND CLOSING PRAYERS

*Please stand*

### Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God,  
Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, one in Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:  
Was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became man.  
For our sake he was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered, died, and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
and with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look forward to the resurrection of the dead,  
And the life of the world to come. Amen.**

### Prayers of the People

*All respond: Lord, hear our prayer.*



**Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father, who art in heaven  
hallowed be they 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 trespasses  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,  
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**HYMN:** Too Often, God, Your Name Is Used*Stanza three will be sung by the choir alone.*

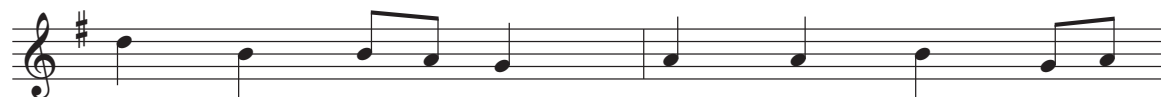
1. Too of - ten, God, your name is used To  
 2. But move through us in deeds that spell Your  
 3. And keep us read - y to re - ceive The  
 4. That vi - sion o - pens wide the Church To



sanc - tion hate and fear, So love and jus - tice  
 name as Love and Light, For faith - ful ac - tions  
 good that oth - ers do, That helps ex - pand what  
 look be - yond its walls, To hon - or all who



are re - fused To peo - ple you hold dear. O  
 far ex - cel Be - liefs that we re - cite. Let  
 we be - lieve And why we trust in you. For  
 ask and search For where your Spir - it calls. Their



nev - er let us use your name To  
 nam - ing you through how we live Be -  
 where deep love and jus - tice meet We  
 ques - tions and their won - der - ing Help



harm or hurt or kill, Or con - se - crate a  
 come our pub - lic creed: The clear - est wit - ness  
 see a - new your face And for a mo - ment  
 us more ful - ly claim Our mis - sion as an



vi - cious aim As your al - might - y will.  
 we can give Is meet - ing hu - man need.  
 glimpse com - plete The world trans - formed by grace.  
 of - fer - ing That glo - ri - fies your name.

## Announcements and Acknowledgements

Rev. Dr. Christopher Dorn, Chairman, Christians Uniting in Song and Prayer

## Closing Prayer

*All respond: Amen.*

## Benediction

*All respond Amen to each invocation.*

*Leader:* The Lord bless you and keep you;

The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

The Lord lift up his countenance upon you.

And give you peace.

## HYMN: Walk in Peace

*The choir will sing the first time, then all repeat until the signal to end.*

Walk in peace; walk in beau - ty;

walk in the Spir - it of God. And when you

walk, Christ is there, and when you walk, Christ is

there. *Repeat until cue* Walk in there, *Last time* Christ is there.

