

WORSHIP SERVICE

Rev. Jermell Witherspoon

Music Director Sam Peters



**Admiral Congregational
United Church of Christ**

September 13, 2026 • 10:30 am

PRELUDE

WELCOME & MAKING SPACE FOR SPIRIT

GROUNDING SONG

Why should I be discouraged, why should the shadows come,
Why should my heart be lonely, and long for heaven and home,
When God is ever my portion? My constant friend is he:
God's eye is on the sparrow and I know God watches me;
God's eye is on the sparrow and I know God watches me.
I sing because I'm happy, I sing because I'm free,
God's eye is on the sparrow and I know God watches me.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Jesus walks into an occupied land, among working people carrying the weight of systems they did not create.

People: And Jesus declares: Another way is possible.

Leader: Not a way built on domination, exploitation, fear, or the comfort of a few

People: But a way of justice, dignity, liberation, and love.

Leader: Jesus calls ordinary people to become participants in something holy, to disrupt what diminishes life and build what makes life abundant.

People: We hear the call to courageous love.

Leader: A love that refuses to remain silent when people are harmed. A love that questions what we have been taught. A love that chooses people over power and corporations, and community over comfort.

People: We hear Jesus saying, "Follow me."

Leader: Follow me beyond what your family told you was possible. Beyond what culture told you was acceptable. Beyond what religion told you could never change.

People: We will follow toward beloved community.

Leader: So bring your questions. Bring your courage. Bring your holy dissatisfaction with the world as it is.

All: We come believing that another world is possible, and that God is calling us to help build it. Let the revolution of love begin among us. Amen.

SHARED SINGING: "ALL THE MUSIC SUNG AND PLAYED HERE", (INSERT)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(A CORPORATE TIME OF COMMUNAL PRAYER, FEEL FREE TO NAME PRAYERS
OR UPLIFT PRAISE)

Leader: God of love, hear the prayers of your people.

People: God in Your Mercy, Hear our Prayer and receive our praise

(RESPOND AFTER EACH PRAYER GIVEN)

LORD'S PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary
Spacious and holy, tried and true
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living
Sanctuary for You

INVITATION TO SHARE

(A TIME FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS; IF NONE ARE SPOKEN, PLEASE SEE THE PROGRAM
FOR COMMUNITY UPDATES AND UPCOMING EVENTS)

CHORAL ANTHEM: "LEAD WITH LOVE", BY MELANIE DEMORE

THE ADMIRAL CHOIR

Scripture Reading: Mark 1:14-20 (NRSVue)

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the good news of God and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, He saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea, for they were fishers. And Jesus said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of people." And immediately they left their nets and followed Him. As He went a little farther, He saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately He called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed Him.

SERMON: "*FOLLOW ME TO THE REVOLUTION*"

PASTOR ELIZABETH

CONVERSATION

- 1) Reflect on a time when you were willing to resist expectations to serve justice, serve the greater good, or speak truth to power -- did it become a way of life for you?
- 2) What are different ways your culture tempts you away from revolution and liberation?

SHARED SINGING: "SIYAHAMBA", NCH 526

BENEDICTION

May you be blessed with clarity to understand where power is distorted among those who want to lead, curiosity to discover where truth has been hidden, compassion to center the ones who've been harmed, and courage to act with conviction in following Jesus to bring about a more equitable and loving world, even if it's uncomfortable at times.

POSTLUDE

***“No matter who you are, wherever you are
on life’s journey, you are welcome here!”***



Pastor Jermell’s Office Hours

Mon 10 AM-2 PM; Wed 10 AM-12 PM
In person or by individual Zoom appointment.
(206) 471-1597
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Church Office Hours

Tue, Wed & Thu 2 AM-4PM
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or (206) 932-2928



GIVE ONLINE HERE