

<https://zoom.us/j/94327921872?pwd=a05walRGK1MxcTRab0pLWC9DeFViQT09>

Password: 023012

**UNION UNIVERSITY CHURCH**  
**ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
September 7, 2025

**All:** Christ, whose insistent call disturbs our settled lives; give us discernment to hear your word, grace to relinquish our tasks, and courage to follow empty-handed wherever you may lead; that the voice of your gospel may reach to the ends of the earth. Amen

**\*HYMN #549**

**Be Thou My Vision**

**INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

*Please consider these options: checks, cash, or arrange for your bank or credit union to send a monthly check to UUC at no charge to the donor.*

**OFFERTORY**

Meditation

*Douglas E. Wagner "As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God." Psalm 42:1*

**\*DOXOLOGY # & BLESSING**

**#71A: Praise God, the source of life and birth.**

**Praise God, the Word who came to earth.**

**Praise God the Spirit, holy Flame.**

**All glory, honor to God's name.**

**SCRIPTURE**

Luke 14: 25-33 (*Pew Bible p.902*)

**SERMON**

The Value of a Costly Choice

Marc Smithers

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Leader: Lord, it is easy for us to say that we will follow you; and then turn our backs and act as though our commitment to you does not mean anything to us.

**People: Jesus challenges us to take up our crosses, and when we don't understand what that means, we just shrug and turn away.**

Leader: Forgive us for our lack of commitment and faith. Heal us of our greed and fears.

**People: Give us courage to be disciples and enable us to joyfully proclaim your healing mercies and your transformational love.**

**All: In Jesus' Name, we pray. Amen**

**SERVICE OF COMMUNION**

This month we celebrate "altar communion" by asking people to come forward to take the bread and cup when the usher invites you. Take and eat a piece of bread. After eating the bread, move to the right or to the left, take a cup of juice and drink it. After you drink the juice, place the empty cup in the tray provided on the left or right. Once you have placed your empty cup in the tray, return to your pew using the outside aisles. If you cannot come forward, indicate to the usher that you would like communion brought to you by an Elder.

Our church practices open communion. Anyone who wishes to join in the Lord's Supper is invited to do so

**COMMUNION HYMN #461**

*(Sung while communion is served. Please remain seated.)*

**Come to the Table of Grace**

**Words of Institution**

**Sharing the Lord's Table Together**

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Leader: In peace let us pray:

**All: We thank you, God, for inviting us to this table where we have known the presence of**

Christ and have received all Christ's gifts. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and let us show forth your praise in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen

**\*CLOSING HYMN # 558 Lord I Want to be a Christian**

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE #689** Amen

**POSTLUDE** I've Got Peace like a River *arr Joel Raney*

**\*Please stand as you are able.**

**Note: Large print hymnals are available at the back of the sanctuary.**

**September Guest Preachers**

September 7: Marc Smithers

September 14: John Buckwalter

September 21: Paul Briggs

September 28: Wendy Fambro

**September Leadership:** Elder:- John Buckwalter, **Trustee-** Jerry Jusaniec **Deacon** – Tiersa Watson **Fellowship-** Tim Nichols

**Congregational Meeting**

**Immediately Following Worship Today**

Please stay for an important congregational meeting following worship today:

- to update us on potential “next steps” in our search for a new pastor and
- to hear results of the visioning group sessions that took place last Spring

**Our community picnic will follow at 12:30**

**Prayer Concerns**

Ding Jiaxi & Family, Chang Weiping & Family, Clayton Stutzman, Hugh Langelier, Wes Bentz, Lowin, Michelle Garcia Escobar, Vangelia Perryman, Esther & Marcus Epps, Bob & Deb Lewis, Bob Condrate, Joan & Brad Bowden, Luanne Crosby's friends: Kathy Kalushka (breast cancer) & Kathy Bohlen (cancer), and Steve Crandall.

### Serving Today

Guest Preacher.....Marc Smithers  
Lay Leader.....John Buckwalter  
Communion.....John Buckwalter (EOM)  
Greeter(s).....Mary-Lou & Jerry Cartledge  
Altar Flowers.....Communion  
Coffee Hour.....Community Picnic  
Keyboard.....Laurel Buckwalter  
Usher.....Lana Meissner  
Zoom Hosts.....Jim Ninos

### Looking Ahead – September 14

Guest Preacher.....John Buckwalter  
Lay Leader.....Deb Stephens  
Greeter(s).....Mary Smith  
Altar Flowers.....Regina Burke  
Coffee Hour.....Bob Heineman, Michelle Hluchy  
Keyboard.....Laurel Buckwalter  
Usher.....Deb Stephens  
Zoom Hosts.....Jim Ninos

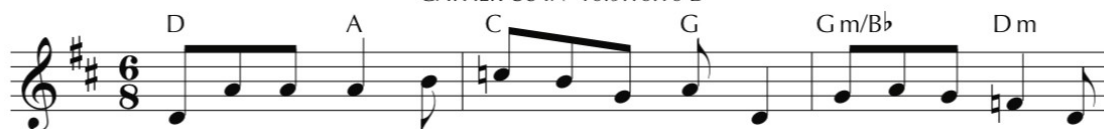


- **Weekly email newsletter**, *This Week@UUC* – sign up on our webpage or contact the Church Office and ask to be added to the mailing list. [uucalfred@gmail.com](mailto:uucalfred@gmail.com)
- **Online forum** for members to share prayer concerns and items of interest – contact Catherine Chambers to be added to the forum [icatchchambers@icloud.com](mailto:icatchchambers@icloud.com)
- **Church website** for Zoom access, church calendar, information for members, and more.

## 10

## Here in This Place

GATHER US IN 10.9.10.10 D



1 Here in this place, the new light is stream-ing; now are the shad-ows  
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys-t'ry. We are the old who  
 3 Here we will take the wine of com-pas-sion; here we will take the  
 4 Not just in build-ings, dim and con-fin-ing; not in some heav-en,



van-ish-ed a-way. See in this space our fears and our dream-ings,  
 yearn for your face. We have been sung through-out all of his-t'ry,  
 bread of new birth. Here we be-come the peo-ple you fash-ion:  
 light-years a-way: here in this place, the new light is shin-ing;



brought here to you in the light of this day.  
 called to be light to the whole hu-man race.  
 chil-dren of God, to be salt for the earth.  
 now is the dawn-ing and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for-sak-en; gath-er us in, our  
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty; gath-er us in, the  
 Give us to drink the wine ev-er flow-ing, give us to eat the  
 Gath-er us in and hold us for-ev-er; gath-er us in and



spir-its in-flame. Call to us now, and we shall a-wak-en;  
 proud and the strong. Give us a heart so meek and so low-ly;  
 bread that is you. Nour-ish us well, and guide us in grow-ing  
 make us your own. Gath-er us in, all peo-ples to-geth-er,



we shall a-rise at the sound of our name.  
 give us the cour-age to en-ter the song.  
 lives that are ho-ly and hearts that are true.  
 fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

Text: Marty Haugen (USA), 1981, *Gather*, 1988, alt.Music: Marty Haugen, 1981, *Gather*, 1988

© 1982 GIA Publications, Inc.



# 549 Be Thou My Vision

SLANE 10.10.9.10

Capo 2: (D) E (G) A (D) E (Bm) C#m (A) B (D) E

1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;  
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, be thou my true word;  
 3 Be thou my buck - ler, my sword for the fight.  
 4 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain emp - ty praise;  
 5 \*True Light of heav - en, when vic - t'ry is won

(A) B (Em) F#m (A) B (Bm) C#m (A) B

naught be all else to me, save that thou art.  
 I ev - er with thee, and thou with me, Lord.  
 Be thou my dig - ni - ty, thou my de - light,  
 thou mine in - her - it - ance, now and al - ways.  
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun!

(G) A (D) E (Bm) C#m (G) A (A) B

Thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
 Born of thy love, thy child may I be,  
 thou my soul's shel - ter, thou my high tow'r.  
 Thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,  
 Heart of my heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

\*Alternate phrase: "High King"

Text: Irish traditional, "Rob tu mo bhoile, a Comdi cride," ca. 8th c.; trans. Mary Elizabeth Byrne (Ireland), *Ériu*, Vol. 2, 1905, alt.  
 Music: Irish traditional, *Old Irish Folk Music and Songs*, 1909; harm. Martin Shaw (England), *Enlarged Songs of Praise*, 1931, alt.,

© 1927 Oxford University Press

(D) (A) (D) (Bm) (G) (D)  
E B E C#m A E

wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.  
thou in me dwell - ing and I one with thee.  
Raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.  
\*Rul - er of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.  
still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.



# 461 Come to the Table of Grace

Swing: ♩ = ♩<sup>3</sup> ♩

TABLE OF GRACE 7.7.10.7

Capo 3: (D) F (A) C (Bm) Dm (D7/A) F7/C (G) Bb

Come to the ta - ble of grace. Come to the

(A) C (D) F (A) C (D) F (Em) Gm

ta - ble of grace. This is God's ta - ble; it's

(D/F#) F/A (G) Bb (D/A) F/C (A7) C7 (D) F (G) Bb (D) F

not yours or mine. Come to the ta - ble of grace.

- 2 Come to the table of peace . . .
- 3 Come to the table of love . . .
- 4 Come to the table of hope . . .
- 5 Come to the table of joy . . .

Text: Barbara Hamm (USA)  
 Music: Barbara Hamm  
 © 2008 Hope Publishing Company





# 558 Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

LORD, I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN Irregular

D

1 Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart, in my heart.

A Bm G D G D

Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart.

G D Bm

In my heart, In my heart, in my heart, in my heart,

D A7 Bm G D

Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart.

2 Lord, I want to be more loving . . .

3 Lord, I want to be more holy . . .

4 Lord, I want to be like Jesus . . .

689

## Amen

Capo 3: (D)  
F

AMEN Irregular

(Em) (D/A)(A7) (D)  
Gm F/C C7 F

A - men, a - men. A - men, a - men, a - men!

Text: Hebrew traditional, אָמֵן (Amen) (Mediterranean), ca. 4th c. BC  
Music: African American traditional (USA); arr. Nelsie T. Johnson (USA), 1988