

# Hadwen Park Congregational Church, UCC

www.hadwenparkchurch.org

August 29, 2021 10 am

\*stand if you are able

## PRELUDE

Brett Maguire, brettwmaguire@gmail.com

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Judy Hanlon, gracelift@aol.com

## WELCOMING STATEMENT

## \*GATHERING HYMN

*"I Am a Promise"*

**I am a promise, I am a possibility, I am a promise, with a Capital P**  
**I am a great big bundle of potentiality**  
**I am a learnin' to hear the right voice, I am a tryin' just to make the right choice**  
**I am a promise to be anything God wants me to be**

(Quiet) **I can go anywhere God wants me to go**  
(Little louder) **I can be anything that God wants me to be**  
(Even louder) **I can climb the high mountains, I can cross the wide sea**  
(Loudest!) **I'm a great big promise you see.**

**I am a promise, I am a possibility, I am a promise, with a Capital P**  
**I am a great big bundle of potentiality**  
**I am a learnin' to hear the right voice, I am a tryin' just to make the right choice**  
**I am a promise to be anything**  
(big ending JAZZ hands) **God wants me to be ...Yea!**

## HEBREW SCRIPTURE

*Psalm 45: 1-2, 6-9*

Your throne, O God, endures forever and ever.  
Your royal scepter is a scepter of equity;  
you love righteousness and hate wickedness.  
Therefore, your God, has anointed you  
with the oil of gladness beyond your companions;  
your robes are all fragrant with myrrh and aloes and cassia.  
From ivory palaces stringed instruments make you glad;  
daughters of kings are among your ladies of honor;  
at your right hand stands the queen in gold of Ophir.  
The Hebrew Scripture for the Christian People. **AMEN**

## BAPTISMS

**Chloe Anne Laventure, November 12, 2020**  
*Parents: Ryan and Melissa (Nickerson) Laventure*  
*Godparents: Nicholas (Nickerson) Engelke*  
*Alison Gagnon (Ryan's sister)*  
**Miller Louise Murdock, January 17, 2021**

## BAPTISM SONG

*"I Was There to Hear Your Boring Cry"*  
See insert

## PRAYER of CONFESSION

**Lord God, You are the perfect Creator, and You tell us we are fearfully and wonderfully made. We confess that our pride prevents us from believing this truth. We question Your design and often wish that you had made us a different way. Heal us of this sinful tendency. Help us celebrate how You have made us in Your image with perfect purpose and care. Lord, we know that You call us into Your holy service to use our gifts to further Your Kin-dom on earth. We confess that we find ourselves using our God-given gifts to further our own agendas instead of Yours. Renew our hearts and strengthen us. Go with us as we do the work You have given each of us to do.**  
In the powerful Name of Christ, we pray and we listen.....*silence*

## CHORAL RESPONSE

**1 and 4) Glory, Glory, Hallelujah, I have laid my burdens down**  
**Glory, glory, Hallelujah, I have laid my burdens down**  
**2) I am shouting Hallelujah**  
**3) I am dancing, Merriam's dance now**

## NEW TESTAMENT

*James 1: 17-27*

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the God of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of God's own purpose we were given birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of God's creatures. You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore, rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror, for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing. If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.  
This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

## ANTHEM

*Summer Singers*

PRAYER REQUESTS, PASTORAL PRAYER and LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*"Summer Singers"*

\*DOXOLOGY

**"Give thanks with a grateful heart, Give thanks to the Holy One,  
Give thanks because God's given Jesus Christ, the son.  
And now let the weak say, "I am strong." Let the poor say "I am rich"  
because of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks."**

\*PARTING HYMN

*"In the Midst of New Dimensions" #391*

**In the midst of new dimensions, In the face of changing ways  
Who will lead the pilgrim people, wandering in their separate ways?**

**Chorus: God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar,  
We your people, ours the journey,  
now and ever, now and ever, now and ever more**

**Through the flood of starving people, warring factions and despair  
Who will lift the olive branches, who will light the flame of care....Chorus**

**As we stand a world divided, by our own self-seeking schemes  
Grant that we, your global village, might envision wider dreams....Chorus**

**We are man and we are woman, all persuasions, young and old  
Each a gift in your creation, each a love song to be sung....Chorus**

**Should the threats of dire predictions, cause us not to trust your name  
May your blazing Phoenix spirit resurrect this church again!....Chorus**

\*CHORAL BENEDICTION

**"One in love, one in friendship true,  
one in hope, one in spirit too, one in faith that God will care  
for you, until we meet together again."**

POSTLUDE

## INVITATION to BAPTISM

**Pastor:** Members and friends in Christ, we gather now to celebrate the gift of grace in the sacrament of baptism.

**People: There is one body and one Spirit. There is one hope in God's call to us.**

Pastor: They were bringing children to Jesus that Jesus might touch them; and the disciples rebuked them. But, when Jesus saw it, Jesus was indignant, and said to them,

**People: "Let the children come to me, do not hinder them; for to such belongs the realm of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the realm of God like a child, shall not enter it."**

Pastor: And, Jesus took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands upon them. Baptism is the sacrament through which we are united to Jesus Christ and given part in Christ's ministry of reconciliation. Baptism is the visible sign of an invisible event; the reconciliation of people to God. In baptism, God works in us the power of forgiveness, the renewal of the Spirit, and the knowledge of the call to be God's people always.

**People: This is the water of baptism. Out of this water we rise with new life, one in Christ, members of Christ's body.**

## BAPTISM COVENANTS

Today we welcome **Miss Chloe Anne Laventure** with open arms and huge hearts into our church family. We will love you unconditionally and guide you on your faith journey. We will teach you to help others, and to be kind and caring, we will also teach you to forgive those who aren't. We will lead you down a path where you will be able to become the best version of Chloe there is! Whether you are a dancer like Lainey, a baseball player like Zack and Brayden or even hockey player like Maddie or maybe a choir singer like Gram. Your church family will be here to cheer you on. You are an example of new beginnings and great love Chloe. God bless you.

Today we welcome **Miller Louise Murdock**. Miller, we offer you a safe

place. A home, an escape, and a place for healing. Know that this family offers no judgment. We look forward to watching you grow, and promise to guide you both in life and in faith. Your journey is just beginning, and we, as your church family, will always be here to offer support and guidance. God bless your beautiful spirit. Amen.

And you shut your weary eyes  
I'll be there as I have always been  
With just one more surprise.

I was there to hear your borning cry,  
I'll be there as you grow old.  
I rejoiced the day you were baptized  
To see your life unfold.

## I WAS THERE to HEAR YOUR BORNING CRY

*It is our custom at HPC to stand when a line  
in this song speaks to your spiritual journey.*

I was there to hear your borning cry,  
I'll be there as you grow old.  
I rejoiced the day you were baptized  
To see your life unfold.

I was there when you were but a child,  
With a faith to suit you well  
In a blaze of light you wandered off  
To find where demons dwell.

When you heard the wonder of the word,  
I was there to cheer you on  
You were raised to praise the living Lord,  
To whom you now belong

If you find someone to share your time,  
And you join your hearts as one  
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme  
From dusk to rising sun.

In the middle ages of your life  
Not too old no longer young  
I'll be there to guide you through the night  
Complete what I've begun.

When the evening gently closed in,