

## **WE GATHER IN CELEBRATION**

### **Prelude**

*Testify to Love*

By Ralph Van Manen, Henk Pool, Robert Riekkirk, and Paul Field

### **Opening Sentences**

One: This is the day that God has made!

Many: **Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

### **Centering Words**

### **Opening Song**

*Draw The Circle Wide*

Words and music on page 5

### **Call to Worship**

Sal Jensen

One: God has made each of us in God's own image.

Many: **In our unique identities we reflect the gorgeous diversity of our Creator.**

One: God sees us in every color of the spectrum.

Many: **Queer or straight, cisgender or transgender,  
She delights in the rainbow Body of Christ.**

One: We gather here as God's children with whom He is very pleased.

Many: **Before we were born, He knit us together in the womb,  
calling us "beloved."**

One: So let us worship in this sacred place, proud of who we are, proud of who we love, welcomed fully in this family of faith.

Many: **Encircled by God, we rest in Their arms, without shame and without fear. We rejoice, for we are awe-fully and wonderfully made! AMEN.**

### **Passing of the Peace**

One: The peace of Christ is with each of you.

Many: **And also with you!**

*Please share with one another a sign of Christ's peace.*

### **Children's Moment**

Rev. Karma Cloud

### **Announcements**

### **Offertory**

## WE OFFER OUR PRAYERS

### Call to Prayer

*Sing Through My Voice*  
Alexandra Sarton & Abigail Spinner McBride

Daniel Belnavis,  
*soloist*

### Singing Bowls

Rev. Karla Wrona

### Prayers of the People

#### Response:

**One:** God, in your mercy

**Many:** hear our prayers.

### Lord's Prayer

**ALL:** Our Father, who art in heaven;  
hallowed be your name;  
Your kin-dom come;  
your 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 yours is the kin-dom and the power and the  
glory forever, AMEN.

### Hymn of Affirmation

*How Could Anyone Ever Tell You*  
Words and music on page 6

### Sharing Our Stories of Heartbreak and Hope

Lex Lourenco

### Response

**ALL:** You are beautiful, whole, a miracle.

### Song

*Getting Ready to Get Down*  
By Josh Ritter

Ray Lenzini, *soloist*

## WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WISDOM

**First Modern Lesson** is an original poem called "We Will Not Whisper" by Quassan Castro.  
Quassan Castro

### Second Modern Lesson

"Jesus At the Gay Bar"  
A poem by Jay Hulme

Oliver Brantome

## Scripture Reading

## Psalm 100

1 Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.  
2 Serve the Lord with gladness;  
come into his presence with singing.  
3 Know that the Lord is God.  
It is he who made us, and we are his;[  
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.  
4 Enter his gates with thanksgiving  
and his courts with praise.  
Give thanks to him; bless his name.  
5 For the Lord is good;  
his steadfast love endures forever  
and his faithfulness to all generations.

One: May God's wonder be revealed to us through the mystery of these words.

Many: **Thanks be to God!**

## Sermon

“Unspeakable Joy”

Rev. Dr. J. Terry Todd

## Anthem

*Stand by Me / Lean On Me*

Ben E. King, Jerry Leiber, Mike Stoller/Bill Withers, arr. Hans Ericson

Hans Ericson, *soloist*

## WE GO INTO THE WORLD

### Anointing and Commission

*Everyone present — all members of the LGBTQI+ community and allies— are invited to come forward to receive a special anointing and blessing. An anointing is a sign of our belovedness by God and an affirmation that we are called to reflect God's extravagant, inclusive love in the world.*

### Anointing Music

*Transfigure Me*

Words and music on page 6

### The Closing Commission

One: The spirit of God is upon us.

Many: **God has anointed us  
to bear good news to the afflicted,  
to bind up the broken hearted,  
to proclaim freedom to the captives,  
to open the prisons of those who are bound.  
Let us go forth in the name of Christ to bring  
peace into broken relationships, healing to**

alienated persons, action to protect our planet,  
and justice into oppressive structures. AMEN.

## Benediction

### Dance Party on the Labyrinth

*During our closing music all are welcome to celebrate with a dance party on the labyrinth.  
Come and let the Spirit move you! Thank you Petra for making the playlist!*

*This Pride service was created by a portion of the Full Spectrum  
Spirituality Ministry. We are grateful to:*

*Daniel Belnavis, Oliver Brantome, Lisa Marie Bronson, Quassan Castro, Petra  
Cruz, Jordan Dreyer, Hans Ericson, Sal Jensen, Ray Lenzini,  
Lex Lourenco, Gavin Murtha, Michelle Owens, Matt Pfouts and Rev. Karla  
Wrona.*

### **SERVICE NOTES**

*Thank you to our volunteer worship leaders this morning.*

**Worship Leader:** Rev. John Rogers

**Guest Preacher:** Rev. Dr. J. Terry Todd

**Liturgist:** Lex Lourenco

**Readers:** Quassan Castro, Oliver Brantome, Jen McClure

**Ushers:** Stella Wilkins and Terrence Williams

**Coffee Hour Co-Host:** Full Spectrum Ministry

**Coffee Hour Setup Team:** Michael Harney, Steve Cutaia and Tim Duhamel

**Music Leaders:** Julie Morgan and David Salyers

**FCC Band:** Jania Bibighaus, Hans Ericson and Ray Lenzini

**AV Techs:** Jason Jimson and Lucas Manrique

*A donation has been made to the food bank by Emily Smith & Martin Edwards in loving memory of  
Herb Smith.*

## ***Draw the Circle Wide***

*By Mark Miller*

*Draw the circle,  
draw the circle wide.  
Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.*

*No one stands alone,  
we'll stand side by side.*

*Draw the circle,  
draw the circle wide.*

*Draw the circle wide,  
draw it wider still.*

*Let this be our song:  
no one stands alone.  
Standing side by side,  
draw the circle,  
draw the circle wide.*

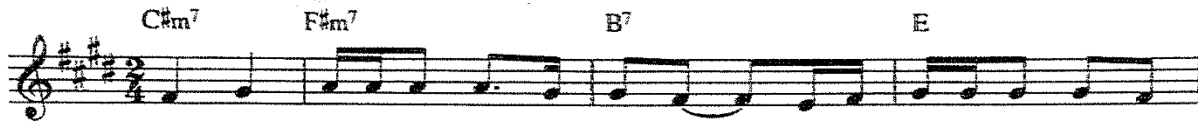
## **Transfigure Me** **By Christopher Grundy**

Trans-fig - ure me so that I might be more like Je -  
sus, more like Je - sus; trans-fig - ure me so that I might be  
more like\_ Je - sus, Je - sus my\_ light.

# How Could Anyone

Libby Roderick

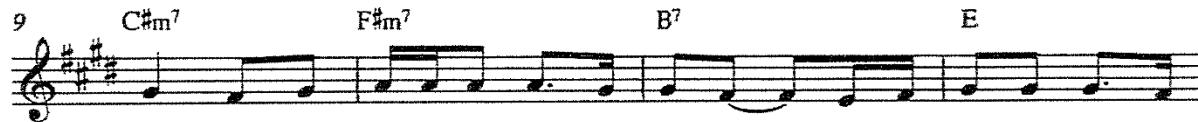
♩ = 74



How could an-y-one ev - er tell you\_ you were an,-y-thing less than



beau-ti - ful?\_ How could an-y-one ev - er tell you\_ you were less than



whole? How could an-y-one fail to no - tice\_ that your lov-ing is a



mir - a - cle?\_ How deep - ly you're con - nec - ted to my soul.

**You can make a donation or sustaining gift online at any time!**

There are many ways to give to FCC each Sunday. You can easily set up your sustaining gift, your Sunday Offering, or a one-time contribution ...using our new Church Center service.

**ONLINE:** Scan the QR Code below or go to <https://fcmtc.churchcenter.com/giving>

**CHECK:** If you give by check it must be made out to "First Congregational Church," (not "FCC") and can be put in the offertory basket, or mailed to:  
40 So. Fullerton Avenue, Montclair, NJ, 07042. *Thank you*



## **Upcoming Events**

### **Job Hunt in "This" Economy? Zoom Workshop June 24, 7-8pm**

Level up your resume / LinkedIn to expand your professional community and network your way to a new role. Led by FCC member, Brian Mills, a proven research / design leader & coach in the global user experience community. Zoom link: [www.tinyurl.com/JobHuntWkshp](http://www.tinyurl.com/JobHuntWkshp)



### **Open Mic at FCC, June 26 at 7pm in the Guild Room**

Hosted by FCC member, Ray Lenzini. This is a relaxed, welcoming acoustic open mic organized by the FCC LGBTQ+ ministry, Full Spectrum. It's a casual space for queer folks and allies to grab a coffee, perform, and connect with a supportive community.

## **Ongoing Events**

### **Weekly Wednesday Labyrinth Walks 11am—1pm (Closed July & August)**

Each Wednesday our labyrinth is open for spiritual walking. No experience necessary!

### **The Searcher's Bible Study on Zoom each Thursday Eve at 7pm**

***(No sessions July & August)***

FCC member, Rev. Victor Peterson, will lead an engaging exploration of our scriptures each Thursday evening on Zoom.

### **Underground Church—June 27, 10:30am in the Sanctuary**

An intimate and interactive worship experience that hearkens back to the early church.

### **Full Spectrum Spirituality (FSS) LGBTQ+ Gathering**

We chat about life, spirituality, and whatever else comes up! If you are interested in joining this group, please contact Jordan at [fullspectrum@fccmtc.com](mailto:fullspectrum@fccmtc.com).

### **Green Team Ministry (2nd Sundays) after the Service in the FCC Library**

Learn about FCC's creation care and climate justice initiatives, be part of planning our activities, and live out your faith by taking action for the planet.

***For more details check the calendar on our "Upcoming Events" page:***

***<https://fccmontclair.org/upcoming-events-at-fcc/>***

## **Want to sing in the choir on Sunday mornings?**

All summer, the anthem after the sermon will be a song that we put together on that same Sunday morning, before service. (There's no weekday rehearsal.)

**We'll meet at 9:30 in the sanctuary** to learn/practice it, and then sing it in the worship service. I'll let folks know in the few days before Sunday what the song will be, and if I can send an audio clip as well, I do so.

If you'd like to join us any week, just email me (Julie) at [jmorgan@mastervoices.org](mailto:jmorgan@mastervoices.org). We'd LOVE to have you with us, any week!

*-- Julie, David, and the FCC Choir*