



# FAIRLAWN

Connect with what matters in life.



**Fairlawn Avenue United Church  
Sunday, June 14, 2026 10:30am  
Communion and Refugee Ministry Reflection**

**Rev. Jean Ward and Rev. Nigel Weaver  
Eleanor Daley, Director of Music  
Fairlawn Avenue Senior Choir**

2.

\*Indicates when the congregation is to stand, as able.

Congregational responses indicated in ***bold italics*** and unison in **bold** text.

Screen: Congregational responses, unison and singing in white text.

## Welcome and Land Acknowledgement

**\*Processional Hymn** As We Gather at Your Table

VU #457

## \*Lighting of the Christ Candle

**\*Introit** O Thou Who at Thy Eucharist Did'st Pray

E. Daley

O thou who at thy Eucharist did'st pray  
that thy church might be forever one,  
grant that we may all one bread, one body be,  
one through this sacrament of unity.  
(W. H. Turton, 1856-1938, adapted E. D.)

## Passing the Peace

Jesus stood among them and said,

***"Peace be with you."***

Then he breathed on them and said,

***"Receive the Holy Spirit."***

If you forgive someone's sins  
they are gone for good.

***"If you don't forgive sins,  
what are you going to do with them?"***

The peace of Christ be with you

***and also with you.***

**Scripture** Ruth 1

**Anthem** Draw Us Together

Pepper Choplin (b. 1957)

How can we share the gospel of peace  
if peace does not live in the heart?  
How can we share the message of love  
if bitterness tears us apart?  
We may go forward with something to give  
when the gospel we preach is the gospel we live.

*O Lord, come work among us. Move like we've never seen.  
Come now and cleanse us, come work within us,  
draw us together again.*

Come people, come, let us hear the word of the Lord  
as we pray for unity.

Love one another, and be of one mind,  
so you may live in peace.

Always be faithful, be loving and true  
so that God's peace and love is living in you. R

(Pepper Choplin)

**Reflection**      Refugee Ministry – Kathleen Magladry

### **Affirmation of Faith and Prayers**

Let us confess our faith as we say

***I believe in Almighty God,  
who guided the people in exile and in exodus,  
the God of Joseph in Egypt and Daniel in Babylon,  
the God of foreigners, and immigrants, and refugees.***

***I believe in Jesus Christ, a displaced Galilean,  
who was born away from his people and his home,  
who fled his country with his parents  
when his life was in danger.  
When he returned to his own country  
he suffered under the oppression of Pontius Pilate,  
the servant of a foreign power.***

***Jesus was persecuted, beaten, tortured  
and unjustly condemned to death.  
But on the third day Jesus rose from the dead,  
not as a scorned foreigner  
but to offer us citizenship in God's kingdom.***

***I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the eternal immigrant from God's kingdom among us,  
who speaks all languages, lives in all countries,  
and reunites all races.***

4.

***I believe that the Church is the secure home  
for foreigners and for all believers.  
I believe that the communion of saints begins  
when we embrace all God's people in all their diversity.***

Let us pray

Mighty Lord, as you guided the Israelites  
through the wilderness,

***be a pillar of fire by night and a pillar of cloud by day  
for refugees in search of new hope and new life.***

As you brought the Israelites out of bondage to freedom,  
***bring refugees out of persecution to safety.***

As you protected the Israelites  
through 40 years in the desert,

***protect those who languish for years in refugee camps.***

Wipe away their tears of sorrow,

***that their mourning may give way to joyous hope.***

Put an end to warfare and tyranny,

***that some may return home without fear of violence.***

Open the doors of safer nations,

***that some may find new homes in new lands.***

Rebuild their lives,

***that they might enjoy the fruit of labours in peace.***

Restore their material goods,

***that they might sustain their families in prosperity.***

Revive their hope,

***that they might face a future with promise.***

Shine your grace upon them,

***that they might know your love.***

Strengthen their bonds of friendship and family,

***that they might serve one another with encouraging love.***

We thank you for strengthening and equipping us,  
here at Fairlawn, to welcome the stranger,

***that together we might build communities of hope  
where strangers become neighbours and friends,  
and brothers and sisters. Amen.***

God our refuge,  
we hold in heart and mind those who flee their homes  
and who seek safety in a new place.

***We cannot imagine the fear, the uncertainty,  
the discomfort of leaving what one has known  
to venture to the unknown,  
often with little or nothing in their possession.***

May we be filled with a spirit of compassion and grace  
to welcome with open arms those who come to us in need.

***Show us a way of hospitality,  
help us to be generous;  
bring peace where there is turmoil.  
In the name of your Christ, we pray. Amen.***

**\*Hymn**

We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky

**We cannot own the sunlit sky,  
the moon, the wildflow'rs growing,  
for we are part of all that is  
within life's river flowing.  
With open hands receive and share  
the gifts of God's creation,  
that all may have abundant life  
in ev'ry earthly nation.**

**When bodies shiver in the night  
and weary, wait for morning,  
when children have no bread but tears,  
and warhorns sound their warning,  
God calls humanity to wake,  
to join in common labour,  
that all may have abundant life  
in oneness with their neighbour.**

6.

**God calls humanity to join  
as partners in creating  
a future free from want or fear,  
life's goodness celebrating,  
that new world beckons from afar,  
invites our shared endeavour,  
that all may have abundant life  
and peace endure forever.**

### **Introduction to the Offering**

May these gifts, brought to your table,  
***be signs of lives changed and changing  
the work of your Spirit. Amen.***

### **Offertory Anthem** Vouchsafe, O Lord

E. Daley

Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin.  
Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Let Thy mercy be upon us: as our trust is in Thee.  
Lord, in Thee have I trusted:  
let me never be confounded.  
(from the *Te Deum*, ca. 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> century, alt.)

### **\*Presentation of the Offering**

**In gratitude and humble trust we bring our best today,  
to serve your cause and share your love with all along life's way.  
O God, who gave yourself to us in Jesus Christ, your Son,  
teach us to give ourselves each day until life's work is done.**

### **Prayers of the People**

Abba God, you have brought us into your family,  
claiming us as beloved children.  
Bless your family of faith  
with gifts of cooperation and graciousness.  
Increase our hospitality toward all expressions of faith  
and teach us to honor our shared humanity.

Merciful God,  
***receive our prayer.***

Your love and power burst forth in the flashes of lightning,  
the dance of the wind,  
and the deeply rooted trees of the forest.  
Sustain fragile and interconnected ecosystems  
that they flourish for generations to come.

Merciful God,  
***receive our prayer.***

Give your blessing of peace to the nations.  
Shelter all who risk life and livelihood  
to protect others from violence, conflict, and injustice.  
Bring comfort to those who have lost family members  
and friends to the violence of war.

Merciful God,  
***receive our prayer.***

You are a God of love and not of condemnation.  
Quiet the hearts of all who struggle  
with shame, regret, or questions of self-worth.  
Teach us to forgive ourselves and one another

Merciful God,  
***receive our prayer.***

Strengthen bonds between parents, children,  
and families of all varieties.  
We pray especially for adoptive and foster families,  
multi-generational households, and blended families.  
Grant gifts of nurture and patience to all caregivers.

Merciful God,  
***receive our prayer.***

Brought into your family,  
claimed as beloved children  
we turn to you  
a resourceful and resilient mother,  
to a gentle and nurturing father.

***May your name be hallowed,  
may your rule come,***

8. *may your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the rule, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.*

**Communion** The Table Around Which We Gather  
The Bread Which We Break  
The Cup Which We Pour

**Communion Hymn** God of Freedom, God of Justice

VU #700 (sung seated)

**\*Recessional Hymn** Homeless People Will You Listen

VU #696

**\*Blessing**

**\*Choral Commissioning**

E. Daley

(The choir will sing through once, and then the congregation is invited to join in.)

**May God's love surround you, may God's wisdom guide you,  
may God's light shine upon you, until we meet again.**

**Postlude**

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The flowers in the chancel today are in  
loving memory of Bill Dixon, from Sylvia,  
Ross, John and their families.



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