

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC
July 6, 2014

Those who are able may stand where marked (*).

Gathering Music #431 “Shine, Jesus, Shine”

Welcome and Announcements *Mary Menzies*

Opening Prayer

Prelude and Ministry of the Acolyte “As the Deer” *Nystrom*

Responsive Reading: *Psalms 145:8-14*

One: O God, you are gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

**All: O God, you are good to all, your compassion
is over all that you have made.**

One: We sing, O God, of the glory of your kingdom,
and of your sovereign power,

**All: We will tell the world of your mighty deeds,
and the splendor of your kingdom.**

One: Your kingdom is everlasting;
your reign endures throughout all generations.

**All: With steadfast love and awesome power,
O God, you rule the world. With grateful hearts,
we worship you; we sing our song of praise!**

*Hymn #104 “O Worship the King”

Confession: **Kind and generous God, we have heard your
promise to be with us always, but it’s hard sometimes to
believe you. Our world is daily wounded by crime and war.
Our feelings of safety rise and fall with the market. In anger
and sorrow, suspicion and fear, we close our hearts to you
and our neighbors; and still you offer us forgiveness; and still
you offer us your gentle yoke, your presence and your help.**

**And so, kind and generous God, as we come to this holy
meal, we ask you to open our darkened hearts to receive the
light you have prepared for us. In Jesus’ name. AMEN**

* Assurance of Pardon

* Gloria Patri #813

* Statement of Faith (*inside front cover of hymnal*)

Anthem “Enigma Variations: Nimrod Movement” *Elger*

Moments of Concern and Celebration (please fill out a blue card)
Pastoral Prayer and Savior’s Prayer (“trespasses”)

Worship of God with our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: “Song Without Words” *Mendelssohn*

*Doxology #815 with Offertory Prayer

Scripture: Matthew 11:16-30

Sermon “At Long Last, Comfort”

*Hymn *insert* “There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”

The Sacrament of Holy Communion *see insert*

*Hymn #597 “Take My Life and Let and Let It Be” *vs. 1-4*

*Benediction

*Response #597 “Take My Life and Let and Let It Be” *vs. 5, 6*

*Ministry of the Acolyte and Postlude

*We offer our special thanks to Jo Beth Dudley
who is bringing us our special music today.*