

**AS WE EXTEND OUR HANDS AND HEARTS
TOWARD OTHERS IN CHRISTLIKE LOVE, SOME-
THING WONDERFUL HAPPENS TO US. OUR OWN
SPIRITS BECOME HEALED, MORE REFINED, AND
STRONGER. WE BECOME HAPPIER, MORE
PEACEFUL, AND MORE RECEPTIVE TO THE
WHISPERINGS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.**

-DIETER F. UCHTDORF



**BRITANNIA UNITED CHURCH
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BRITANNIA UNITED CHURCH

Sunday Worship

10:15 a.m.

September 9, 2018

Meditation: “The measure of a man’s greatness is not the number of servants he has, but the number of people he serves.”

-- John Hagee

Welcome: to Britannia United Church. Our **nursery** is always available to children three years of age and younger. It is at the end of the hall by the office. **Headsets** are available for those who need assisted hearing (speak to our sound technician). Please join in with the **bold and italic** print. **Coffee and Tea** are available at the back of the church, after the service. Please stand when (*) appears.

We Gather in God’s Name

Introit: Jesus, Teacher, Brave and Bold (605)

Announcements

Prelude

Call to Worship

Hymn: Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love (593)

Opening Prayer: Serving All

When it comes to serving,
we all choose who it will be, Jesus;
Some people are easy to serve:

those we love,

those who love us,

those who are like us,

those who show us their appreciation.

But, others make serving really hard:.

those we dislike and fear,

those who attack or fear us,

those who are different.

those who seem to just take and give nothing back.

But, in all of our picking and choosing,
you ask a very difficult thing of us, Jesus –
you ask us to be servants of *all*

How are we to do this?

***How do we serve the weak, the poor, the neglected,
and the strong, the wealthy, the pampered?***

***How do we serve the broken, the victims, the denied,
and the breaker, the perpetrator, the denier?***

How do we possibly serve all?

However it may be, Jesus,
keep us from using our fear or confusion
as an excuse not to serve;
and help us just to make serving
the most natural response we have to anyone.

***And may our service join with that of others,
to gently change our world into a place
where all serve
and all are served.***

Anthem: The Servant Song

Theme Presentation

Communion

Adam Batson, Lana Czelenski, Charlie Wyse, Ella Wyse

Minute for Mission Wendy Gallant

We Hear God's Word

Scripture Reading: Mark 7:24-37 (Susan Aiken)

Message: Living Faithfully; Living Gracefully

Music Offering: If I Can Help Somebody – Rev. Jim

Prayer: New Eyes

There is so much we miss
as we look through our eyes
trained to see only the familiar

the expected
the safe.

***Thank you, God, that you don't see this way
you look at each of us
woman and man
old and young
rich and poor
gay and straight
and you love what you see.***

Even in the shadows of our shame and sin,
Even in the cold valleys of our grief and regret
You see us – not just as we are
but as we can be – as you made us to be.
You see the glory and the giftedness and the possibility
the nobility and the divine likeness
which you placed there.

***Thank you for how you see us, God.
Please give us new eyes
to see ourselves and others
the way you do. Amen.***

We Respond to God

Prayers of Joy and Concern and The Lord's Prayer

Offertory

* **Doxology:** (541)
***Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God all creatures high and low;
give thanks to God in love made known:
Creator, Word and Spirit, One.***

* **Offertory Prayer:**
***We thank you God,
for the blessings we receive,
and pray they may be used***

*according to Your plan, for all creation.
May our service, bring glory to Your name. Amen*

* **Hymn**: He Came Singing Love (359)

* **Commissioning and Benediction**:

Our world overflows with stories, Jesus,

so many lives,

so many ways of being human.

So why are we satisfied with so few?

Why do we keep telling the same stories over and over,

of the wealthy and powerful and beautiful?

Why do we so carelessly pass by

the rich and unpredictable stories

of the unseen

who in a million magical ways,

make a life out of nothing?

God, forgive our narrow interests,

and our lazy entertainments;

Make us biographers of the least,

who listen to the untold stories of the shadow people,

and bring them into the light.

Give us the curiosity and the restlessness

to search out the forgotten,

the neglected,

the unwanted,

the discarded,

and the worn out,

to learn their legends,

and to acknowledge their place

in the epic story of humanity.

* **Sung Response**: Threefold Amen (967)

Postlude