



**SOUTH COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH**

**Rev. Karen Sorden**

**Sunday, September 1, 2024**

**"Do Unto Others"**

**Week 1: "Blue and Red Make Purple: Kindness"**

## Prelude

## Greeting

**\*Bringing in the Light of Christ –**  
*“Christ Has Broken Down the Wall”*

## Peace Across The Divide (congregation in bold)

Wait.

**Breathe.**

Let the anxiety take a break for just a moment.

**Breathe again.**

We are not alone.

**Christ is with us.**

**\*Opening Hymn - “There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy” pg. 121**

**Sermon**                    **“The Power of Kindness”**  
   **Luke 6:31-36**

**\*Hymn Of Response**    **“The Servant Song”**

## Ministry of Prayer

**Sharing our Joys and Concerns**

**The Prayer of “the Others” (congregation in bold)**

We pray for safety,  
**for ourselves and others.**

We pray for healing,  
**for ourselves and others.**

We pray for the spiritual capacity for kindness,  
**for ourselves and others.**

We pray for freedom to live,  
**for ourselves and others.**

**Pastoral Prayer**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

## The Sacrament of Holy Communion

### Invitation

### Prayer of Confession (congregation in bold)

For all the ways we colonize each other –  
with expectations, beliefs, judgments, and our own fear...

**God, in your mercy, forgive and transform.**

For all the ways we squander right relationship –  
choosing being “right” over “relationship”...

**God, in your mercy, forgive and transform.**

For all the ways we abuse our freedom –  
engaging hateful speech towards those not on “our” side...

**God, in your mercy, forgive and transform.**

For all the ways we deny equality and the belovedness of all –  
deeming some “in” and others “out...”

**God, in your mercy, forgive and transform.**

### A Moment for Silent Confession

### Words of Assurance (congregation in bold)

Jesus said, “I have come to set the prisoner free.” No matter what binds you this day, freedom is yours through new life in Christ. In the name of him who came to loose the chains, you are forgiven.

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven, set free. Glory to God! Amen!**

### The Great Thanksgiving (congregation in bold)

The Liberating God be with you!

**And also with you!**

Lift up your hearts with joy!

**We lift them up to God!**

Let us give praise to the Author of Freedom!

**It is right to give our thanks and praise!**

It is right, and a good and holy thing to give our praise to you this day,  
Liberator of all Humankind. . . . And so we lift up our voices in  
celebration of You!

**Holy, holy, holy are You!**

We join all the prophets and saints!

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory!**

We join the parade of justice!

**Blessed are they who come in the name of the Lord!**

We add our cries and exclamations!

**Hosanna in the highest!**

Holy are you and blessed is your son, Jesus. . . . And he told us to remember:

**You are one at this table, the table of grace.**

For Christ has died, Christ has risen,

**and Christ comes again in this meal we eat together.**

Holy Spirit, transform this meal and transform this body so that we might be free to love without condition, invite without hesitation, go without reservation, and proclaim your kindness to all the world! Let the people say, **“Amen!”**

**Breaking the Bread**

**Sharing the Cup**

**Closing Prayer**

**\*Closing Hymn “For the Healing of the Nations” pg. 428**

**\*Benediction “Christ Has Broken Down the Wall”**

**\*Postlude**

**\*Please stand as you are able.**

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**Sabbath Day: Friday**