

**THREE CONGREGATIONS UNITED IN ONE FAITH**  
Pilgrim Congregational Church, Union Congregational Church  
Filipino American United Church of Christ  
102-35 89<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Richmond Hill, NY 11418

✧ **REIGN OF CHRIST SUNDAY** ✧

NOVEMBER 20, 2011

11:00 A.M

**PRELUDE**

MR. BENJAMIN DIA, JR.  
MS. RACHEL DADAP

**GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CHORAL INTROIT: "We Will Glorify"**

**CALL**

MS. BEBIE DEONARAIN

Come, God is seeking to gather us together.  
Like a shepherd searching for lost sheep, God calls us.  
**Something or someone has summoned us here.**  
**Dare we believe that God knows and welcomes us?**  
God reaches out to rescue all who have strayed.  
Scattered, weak, and injured ones are drawn to God.  
**We come, in need of healing, seeking a blessing.**  
**Our faith draws us here, in spite of our doubts.**  
Come, above all else, to worship and give thanks.  
Make a joyful noise to the Creator of all worlds.  
**God's steadfast love becomes real to us here.**  
**We are reminded of God's immeasurable greatness.**

\*\* **HYMN: "Sing Praise to the Father"**

[142 WR]

\*\* **PRAYER**

**How we underestimate your compassion, Jesus;**  
**we are too easily convinced that you frown more than you smile,**  
**that our weakness and ignorance, our mistakes and sins,**  
**guarantee nothing but judgment from you.**  
**Yet, time and again you show us**  
**that this picture is unworthy of you; after all, you said it –**  
**you didn't come to judge but to save!**  
**And so, we thank you and celebrate you:**  
**Your compassion is limitless, and your love is unfailing;**  
**Your welcome is gracious and extravagant and all-inclusive;**  
**Your embrace is healing and transforming;**  
**And your commitment to us is costly and eternal.**  
**Perhaps we will never really understand**  
**how you can be so totally for us,**

**but perhaps, as we learn to trust, and to lean into your love,**  
**we will find the peace and wholeness that you desire for us.**  
**And so we come, we worship, and we open ourselves**  
**to your surprising compassion again. Amen.**

\*\* **ASCRPTION OF PRAISE: "Majesty"**

[43 WR]

**LITANY: Jesus in Disguise**

It's a tough thing for us to learn, Jesus,  
how you hide in the most unlikely places;  
how you beckon us into life and compassion  
by disguising yourself in broken humanity.  
**But, when our eyes are opened,**  
**we discover that we are never far from your heart,**  
**from your kingdom.**  
And so we ask you to show yourself to us again,  
and lead us into prayerful action;  
Help us to share your grief when lives are needlessly lost  
**simply because they have no money for food or shelter,**  
**because they have no access to medicine and care,**  
**because they have no choice but to live**  
**where war and violence constantly threaten;**  
Help us to feel your offense when the least are exploited  
**by the lust of those who are physically stronger,**  
**by the greed of those who are financially richer,**  
**by the disregard of those who are politically more powerful.**  
Help us to know your pain when what you have created is destroyed  
**by the carelessness of expediency,**  
**by the short-sightedness of progress at all costs,**  
**by the sense of entitlement of proud humanity.**

TEACH US TO WELCOME YOU, JESUS,  
BY WELCOMING THOSE IN WHOM YOUR IMAGE IS HIDDEN,  
AND BY WORKING, IN OUR SMALL WORLDS,  
TO MAKE VISIBLE YOUR KINGDOM WHERE ALL ARE WELCOMED.

**HYMN: "You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd"**

[99 WR]

**THE CHURCH IN PRAYER**

**RESPONSE: "Into My Heart"**

[485 WR]

**Proclamation of the Word**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

**OLD TESTAMENT: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24**

✧ **GOSPEL: Matthew 25: 31-46**

**ANTHEM: "Grace"**

CAROL HAMLIN

**SERMON: "Threat or Treat"**

REV. REUBEN D. CEDINO

OFFERTORY

MS. LORNY PATE & MS. CARIDAD RIVERA

CALL

OFFERING OF TITHES, PLEDGES AND OTHER GIFTS

\*\* DOXOLOGY

\*\* PRAYER

*Spirit of wisdom and revelation, we come with grateful hearts.  
For your providence and care we give thanks. Receive now the  
works of our hands that your glory might be spread throughout  
the world. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.*

\*\* HYMN: "Savior, Like A Shepherd Lead Us"

[440 WR]

\*\* COMMISSIONING

Good Shepherd, Teach us to follow you  
*to care for all that are close to us,  
to protect those who are threatened,  
to welcome those who are rejected,  
to forgive those who are burdened by guilt,  
to heal those who are broken and sick,  
to share with those who have little or nothing,  
to take the time to really know one another  
and love as you have loved us.*

Good Shepherd, Teach us to follow you  
*to spread compassion to those who are far away,  
to speak for those who are voiceless,  
to defend those who are oppressed and abused,  
to work for justice for those who are exploited,  
to make peace for those who suffer violence,  
to take the time to recognize our connectedness,  
and to love as you have loved us.*

Good Shepherd, Teach us to follow you  
and to be faithful to the calling you gave us  
to be shepherds in your name. Amen.

\*\* CHORAL RESPONSE: "Song of Simeon"

POSTLUDE

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Facebook: [www.Facebook.com/FilAmUCC](http://www.Facebook.com/FilAmUCC)