



Making Room for All

National Conference

October 24-26, 2013
Grand Rapids, Michigan

Opening Worship
Thursday, October 24, 2013

Come! Worship God

Prelude

Welcome from Central Reformed Church

Welcome to Making Room for All National Conference

Silent Preparation for Worship

Call to Worship

One: God, you love all that you have created, and you celebrate the diversity of your creation.

**Many: We proclaim your inclusive love.
Make us your living examples.**

One: Throughout your history with your people, you remind us that those whom the world sees as least are the greatest in your eyes.

**Many: We proclaim your inclusive love.
Make us your living examples.**

One: We celebrate with our gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender siblings as they live faithful to your call in their lives.

**Many: We proclaim your inclusive love.
Make us your living examples.**

One: Teach us to honor the gifts of every person, and help us to create a world in which all are known and loved.

**Many: We proclaim your inclusive love.
Make us your living examples.**

One: Jesus says: Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me, and anyone who welcomes me welcomes the One who sent me.

**Many: We proclaim your inclusive love.
Make us your living examples.**

*** Hymn of Praise**

“For Everyone Born”

1 For ev - 'ry - one born, a place at the ta - ble,
 2 For gay and for straight, a place at the ta - ble,
 3 For ev - 'ry - one born, a place at the ta - ble,

for ev - 'ry - one born, clean wa - ter and bread;
 trans-gen - der and queer in one sin - gle tree,
 to live with-out fear, and sim - ply to be;

a shel - ter, a space, a safe place for grow - ing,
 en - gag - ing each gift and bles - sing each cov - 'nant,
 to work, to speak out, to wit - ness and wor - ship,

for ev - 'ry - one born, a star o - ver - head. And
 for gay and for straight, a new way to be.
 for ev - 'ry - one born the right to be free.

REFRAIN

God will de - light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice and
 joy, com - pas-sion and peace; Yes, God will de-light when we are cre -
 a - tors of jus-tice, jus-tice and joy.

Text: Shirley Erena Murray; verse 2 anon.

Music: Brian R. Mann; written for the Vermillion SD

United Methodist Church on their first anniversary as a reconciling community

Words © Hope Publishing Co.

Prayer of Confession

*Adapted from the "Ten Affirmations for GLBT Spirituality"
by the Religion and Spirituality Working Group
of Voices for a New Tomorrow*

Many: We are painfully aware of the ways we dismiss or disdain others who think or act or look differently from ourselves. God, who made us in your image, allow us to show that image to the world.

We are so quick to look down on the defect or sin of another. We insist that our way and view are the only ones. God, who made us in your image, help us to see your image in all those we meet.

We so often want to pull the covers over our heads or stay in the closet. God, who made us in your image, teach us to love ourselves as you love us.

We confess the times when sexual expression has been manipulative and self-interested. We regret the ways in which sexuality and spirituality have been turned against each other. God, who made us in your image, teach us to be whole and holy creations.

We grieve the misuse of marriage, the withholding of its rights and responsibilities. We regret the missed opportunities to care for persecuted LGBT people. God, who made us in your image, bless, protect, and keep us and all your children safe.

Assurance of Pardon

One: The One who breathed life into our lungs continues to be present with us. God, who has made us reflective of God's own image, has forgiven us all and made us new creations. Therefore, since our sins are forgiven, let us go forth with love and peace, honoring and upholding the dignity of all we meet, knowing we see reflections of God's image all around.

*** Song of Thanksgiving**

“There Is Room for All”

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are: "There is room for all in the sha - dow of God's wing; there is room for all, shel - tered in God's love. And I re-joice and sing, "My re - fuge and my rock, in whom I trust." There is room for all, there is room for all."

Text: Bruce Harding
Music: Bruce Harding

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Anthem

“A House of Prayer” (from Isaiah 56:5-8) by Barbara York

*My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations;
people everywhere, no one excluded, no one denied,
for those who strive to do what pleases me.
Here they will find a place, will have a name eternal and unbroken.
And I will bring them to my holy mountain,
give them joy in my house of prayer.
And I will gather the exiles, gather others with them,
will take them to the high mountain.
Joy, oh joy will I give them. My house will be called a house of prayer.*

Listen for God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Genesis 32:22–31

Sermon “Please Call Me by My True Name”

Rev. Adriene Thorne

Hymn of Reflection

“Come, O Thou Traveler Unknown”



1 Come, O thou Trav - el - er — un - known,
2 I need not tell — thee who — I am, —
3 Yield to me now, — for I — am weak, —
4 'Tis Love! 'tis Love! — Thou com - est for me, —



Whom still — I hold, — but can - not see!
My mis - er - y — and pain — de - clare;
But con - fi - dent — in self - de - spair!
I hear — thy whis - per in — my heart.



My — com - pa - ny — be - fore — is gone, —
Thy - self hast called — me by — my name, —
Speak to my heart, — in bless - ing speak, —
The — morn - ing breaks, the shad - ows flee, —



And I — am left — a - lone — with thee.
Look on — thy hands — and read — it there.
Be con - quered by — my in - stant prayer.
Pure, U - ni - ver - sal Love — thou art.



With___ thee all night___ I mean to stay,___
But___ who, I ask___ thee, who art thou?___
Speak,___ or thou nev - er hence shalt move,___
To___ me, to all,___ thy mer - cies move;___



And wres - tle till___ the break___ of day;
Tell me___ thy name,___ and tell___ me now.
And tell___ me if___ thy name___ is love.
Thy na - ture and___ thy name___ is Love.



With___ thee all night___ I mean to stay,___
But___ who, I ask___ thee, who___ art thou?___
Speak,___ or thou nev - er hence shalt move,___
To___ me, to all,___ thy mer - cies move;___



And wres - tle till___ the break___ of day.
Tell me___ thy name,___ and tell___ me now.
And tell___ me if___ thy name___ is love.
Thy na - ture and___ thy name___ is Love.

Text: Genesis 32:24-32; Charles Wesley, 1742, alt.
Music: CHANDLER, 8 8 8 8 D; Traditional Scottish

Called to Serve

Offertory Prayer and Offering

Offertory

“The Last, the Lost, the Least” by David Lohman

**** Affirmation of Faith***

from the Belhar Confession

One: We believe in the triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects and cares for the church through Word and Spirit.

Many: This, God has done since the beginning of the world and will do to the end.

One: We believe in one holy, universal Christian church, the communion of saints called from the entire human family.

Many: We believe that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another.

One: We believe that unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the church of Jesus Christ.

Many: We believe that through the working of God's Spirit it is a binding force, yet simultaneously a reality which must be earnestly pursued and sought.

One: We share one faith, have one calling.

Many: We have one God and Father/Mother, are filled with one Spirit, are baptized with one baptism.

One: We eat of one bread and drink of one cup, confess one name, are obedient to one Lord, work for one cause, and share one hope.

Many: To the one and only God, Son and Holy Spirit, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

**** Prayer for the Priesthood of All Believers***

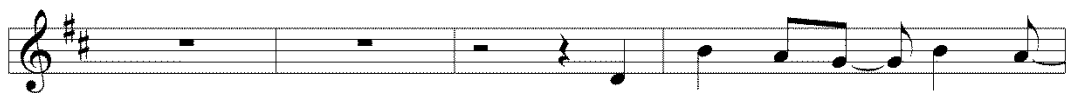
* ***Sending Hymn***

"Believe Out Loud"

REFRAIN

The musical score is written on ten staves in treble clef, with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The score begins with a 'REFRAIN' label. The lyrics are: 'It's time to be-lieve out loud no more stay - ing si - lent! It's time to pro-claim a - loud the faith that we hold dear. It's time to reach out to the re - jec - ted. It's time to stand up and say, "No more!" It's time to cre-ate a church in this day where ev-'ry-one's wel - comed in the door. It's time to be-lieve out loud, It's time to be strong and proud, It's time to be-lieve, be-lieve out loud.' The score ends with a 'Fine' marking.

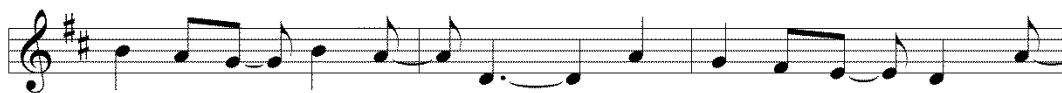
It's time to be-lieve out loud
no more stay - ing si - lent! It's time to pro-claim a - loud
the faith that we hold dear.
It's time to reach out to the re - jec - ted. It's time to stand up
and say, "No more!" It's time to cre-ate a church in this
day where ev-'ry-one's wel - comed in the door. It's time to be-lieve
out loud, It's time to be strong and proud,
It's time to be-lieve, be-lieve out loud. *Fine*



1 Our God re - mains un - chang -
2 If thoughts like love and jus -
3 The love of God is bound -



- ing, yet in so man - y ways the
- tice are more than hol - low words, we'll
- less, we're nev - er turned a - way. And



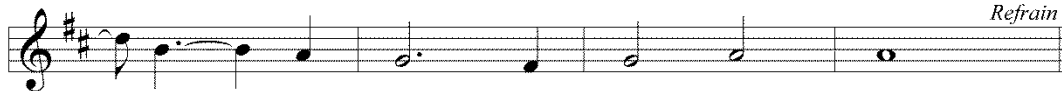
Ho - ly One's still speak - ing, for this we of - fer praise.
lis - ten for the Spir - it and let our hearts be stirred.
out of this a - bun - dance this gift we must re - pay.



Yet God's all - lov - ing guid - ance too
We'll learn to think in new ways, the
We've got to stand with mil - lions who've



of - ten goes un - heard. But there is yet more wis -
doors we'll o - pen wide. The ta - ble's set and read -
heard the Spir - it's call, and shout it from the moun -



- dom to break forth from God's Word!
- y, bring ev - 'ry - one in - side!
- tains: "God's love is meant for all!"

Text: David Lohman
Music: David Lohman

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*** Benediction**

Postlude

We welcome friends from the Grand Rapids area to this opening service of worship. All are invited to return at 7 PM on Friday evening for a concert by David Lohman and Deb Tiemens, followed by the keynote address, “Taking a Stand without having a Standoff” by Justin Lee, executive director of the Gay Christian Network and author of “Torn: Rescuing the Gospel from the Gays - vs.- Christians Debate.” Following the keynote address, the conference book table will be open, and four of the featured authors will be available for a 30-minute book signing opportunity.

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Brian Bartusch	Minister of Music and Organist, Central Reformed Church
Rev. Lou Lotz	Pastoral Leader, Central Reformed Church
Marilyn Paarlberg	Executive Director, Room for All
Rev. Tricia Sheffield and Brad Redeker	Liturgists
Central Reformed Church Choir	
Peter Subers	Baritone Soloist
Judith Meyer	English Horn
David Lohman	Conference Musician
Rev. Adriene Thorne	Preacher, Middle Collegiate Church, New York City

ABOUT TONIGHT’S ANTHEM

“A House of Prayer” was written by Canadian-born composer Barbara York, who is well-known for her works featuring lower brass instruments. Based on Isaiah 56:5–8, we believe that “A House of Prayer” reflects God’s loving and expansive purpose for all who gather for worship: “No one excluded, no one denied ... here they will have a name.” The anthem was inspired by a “heart-to-heart” Barbara had with one of her students, and she dedicated the work to her long-time friend and tonight’s soloist, Peter Subers. Peter premiered the work earlier this year with the choir of The First Church in Albany. A few copies are available for purchase at the book table, or through Cimarron Music Press (www.cimarronmusic.com).

TONIGHT’S OFFERING

Tonight’s offering is in support of Addie’s Diner, ministry of Central Reformed Church. “I was hungry and you fed me” is the motto for the Diner. 60–70 people are served twice a month, with a Thanksgiving meal in November serving more than 100 people.

Conference Announcements

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE REGISTERED FOR “MAKING ROOM FOR ALL” —

Videographers will be filming conference footage and spontaneous interviews with participants throughout the next two days, and a photographer will be taking still photos. These media will become the property of Room for All, and may be used for publicity on our website (names will not be used). We respect all requests not to be filmed or photographed.

“Responding through the Arts” – Between 11 AM & 5 PM on Friday, join artist Joel Schoon Tanis in engaging with the conference experience through written words and paint. Joel will take everyone’s spontaneous contributions and assemble a collage that he will paint back into and reveal at the closing assembly. The finished piece will be available for purchase via an online auction following the conference.

A conference choir directed by David Lohman will rehearse and offer an anthem at closing worship on Saturday morning. All singers are welcome – times TBA.

Space for Spirit and Soul — A room for a Sacred Circle is set apart for individuals who would like uninterrupted space to help process the inner working of the Spirit. While at the same time sharing space with a few others, the intention is for a place of meditation, reflection, prayer, or simple quiet. The designated room has a few written resources available for those who would like a guide for “centering” or deep listening for the Spirit at work within. Location: The “Crib Room” – see the facilities map in your conference folder.

Need to talk with someone? Look for those who have a green sticker on their nametag. These persons are Room for All Board members who are ready and willing to have private conversations with individuals who may be looking for a spiritual companion, chaplain, pastor, soul-friend, someone with a listening heart. They are available for conversations as needed. Just stop one and ask.