**Order of Service for Dedication of Solar Panels**

First Congregational UCC, Madison, Wisconsin

Rev. Eldonna Hazen

*Solar power, wind power, the way forward is to collaborate with nature – it’s the only*

 *way we are going to get to the other end of the 21st century.*

~ Bjork

***Welcome***

***Prelude*** Elevation in B-Major

*~ Theodore Dubois*

***Call to Worship***

Leader: O Source of Light, by Your light we see light. (Psalm 36:10)

**People: "And God made the two great lights...and God set them in the firmament of heaven**

**to give light upon the Earth...and God saw that it was good."** (Genesis1:16-18)

Leader: Creator God, may we have the wisdom to appreciate the goodness in Your creation.

***Unison:*** ***O Source of Light, by Your light we see light.***

Leader: "Give thanks...to the maker of the great lights, whose loving kindness extends eternally."

(Psalm 136:1,7)

**People: Gracious God, may we experience Your ever-renewing bounty with awe and gratitude,**

**and may we use it wisely.**

***Unison: O Source of Light, by Your light we see light.***

Leader: "With a rising-place at one end of heaven, and a circuit that reaches the other, nothing

escapes [the sun's] heat." (Psalm 19:7)

**People: Holy God, may this simple act of harnessing Your eternal light help us escape**

**the global heating that our generation is causing over Your creation.**

***Unison: O Source of Light, by Your light we see light.***

Leader: "Arise, shine, for Your light has dawned -- the presence of the Eternal will shine upon you."

(Isaiah 60:1)

**People: Loving God, Your gift of light enables us to shine.
*Unison: May we, created in Your image, be worthy reflectors of Your glory.***

~ Adapted from *Rabbi Fred Scherlinder Dobb, Adat Shalom Reconstructionist Congregation, Bethesda, Maryland*

***The Passing of the Peace***

**Hymn #470** Golden Breaks the Dawn

*(Le P’ing)*

Golden breaks the dawn, comes the eastern sun

Over lake and lawn, new day has begun.

Birds above me fly, flowers bloom below;

Through the earth and sky God’s great mercies flow.

Give me daily bread, while I do my part;

Bright skies overhead, gladness in my heart.

Simple wants provide, evil let me shun;

Jesus at my side, till the day is done.

**Unison Prayer**

**God of Light and Life, You have accompanied generations around the globe, through times of generosity and times of waste. Today walk with us as we proceed forward into a future that honors our environment and cares for the next generation who will journey with You. We give thanks for the generosity of members and friends that made this project become a reality. We give thanks for those who labored with installation. We give thanks for those who work in science and technology for the creation of solar power. Many hands come together to protect the environment. Amen.**

~ Adapted from St. Andrew’s Lutheran

***A Reading from the Older Testament***

Psalm 36:5-9

Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens,

   your faithfulness to the clouds.

Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains,

   your judgements are like the great deep;

   you save humans and animals alike, O Lord.

How precious is your steadfast love, O God!

  All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

They feast on the abundance of your house,

   and you give them drink from the river of your delights.

For with you is the fountain of life;

   in your light we see light.

***Sermon***

Scott Hackel, First Congregational UCC Member

Drone Video, courtesy of Justin Hicks, First Congregational UCC Member

Burke O’Neal, Full Spectrum Co-owner

Milo Pinkerton, MSP Real Estate, Inc. Owner, Donor

Melissa Baumann, First Congregational UCC Member

Rev. John Helt, Co-chair Wisconsin Conference UCC Kairos Care Team

Faye Whitaker, First Congregational UCC Member

***Hymn*** This Place

(Words: Herbert O’Driscoll; Music: Gaelic melody – Morning has broken)

Sunrise and bell tower, waking the sleeper,

Mist on the lakeshore, melting away.

Children know freedom: love is their keeper.

Campers, cabanas, welcome the day.

Here is a place, to seek transformation.

Here is a place, to walk a new way.

Here can be chosen, deep conversation,

Solitude, silence, moments to pray.

When the soul longs, for solace and healing,

When the world hides, all goodness and grace,

When there is pain, that numbs every feeling,

There can be comfort, here in this place.

Place above all, of joyful belonging;

Walls between heaven, and earth become thin.

Here is a place, of deepest encounter.

Here the heart opens; God enters in.

***Prayers of the People***

The Lord’s Prayer *(In the words most familiar to you.)*

**Our Father (Creator, Mother), who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

***Offering***

***Offertory Solo*** Creator of Beauty and Giver of Light

*~ Mark Schweizer*

***Prayer of Dedication***

*(Turn lights off)*

***Dedication of Solar Panels***

Leader:We call upon the moon and the stars and the sun, which govern the rhythms and seasons of our lives and remind us that we are part of a great and wondrous universe, and we ask:

**People: Teach us O God, and show us the way.**

Leader:We acknowledge the current of electricity binding us to a grid of energy flowing above our heads, through our walls, and weaving throughout our lives.

**People: Connect us O God, and show us the way.**

Leader:We are part of the cosmos, within us, around us, God’s prevailing love shines in all people. Help us to serve one another with compassion and humility.

**People:  Heal us O God, and show us the way.**

Leader: We live by the sun, We move with the stars. Bless these Panels as they provide energy for the church and inspiration in the community. In the name of God who created and continues to create, God who redeemed and continues to redeem, God who Sustained and continues to sustain.

**People: Bless this church and this neighborhood now and forever. Amen.**

~ Adapted from St. Andrew’s Lutheran

*(Turn lights back on)*

***Postlude*** Prelude in G-Minor

*~ Gabriel Pierne*

***Benediction***