

A Litany of Trust in God

By Rev. Ann B. Day

Program Coordinator, Open and Affirming Program of the
United Church of Christ Coalition for LGBT Concerns 1987-2007

Based on Psalm 62:5-12

Originally published in *Shaping Sanctuary*

Bruce Kinney: In the many silences of the heart, O God,
when feeling is beyond saying,
Your faithful people everywhere wait upon Your Spirit.
In the silence of joy -
when a baby is born,
when a sunset blazes,
when a loved one is restored to health,
when peace replaces strife –

All: In our joy, we wait upon You, O God. We give You thanks
and praise.

**(Led by
Elle Funcke
& Michaela Horan)**

Ruth Knowles: In the silence of sorrow - when love is lost,
when pain is too constant a companion, when time brings
change that is hard to bear,
when death seems victorious -

All: In our sorrow, we wait upon You, O God. You alone are our
rock and our refuge.

Bruce Kinney: In the silence of anger -
when justice is postponed until tomorrow,
when violence shatters body and soul,
when prejudice sets neighbor against neighbor,
when no one will listen -

All: In our anger, we wait upon You, O God. Teach us the ways
of justice and mercy.

(continued on reverse)

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of justice and mercy.

(continued on reverse)

Ruth Knowles: Let us put our trust where it belongs, not in our positions of power or wealth, for such things are lighter than breath.

All: In our joy, our sorrow, our anger, we trust in God's unfailing love and guidance. We rely upon the blessing of being a community of faith, a Church universal. Sisters and brothers of many colors, ages, sexual orientations, gender identities, and abilities, we are one in Christ! Together, let us wait upon the God of our salvation!

Open and Affirming Covenant

The faith community of First Congregational Church, Manchester, N.H., reaffirms our shared covenant and beliefs that the Gospel of Jesus Christ calls us to love one another and to extend welcome to all people. We affirm that each individual is a child of God and that all are worthy of God's love and grace.

As witness to these beliefs and as covenant members of Christ's church, we proclaim and celebrate God's love for people of all ages, all races and ethnic backgrounds, all mental and physical abilities, all socioeconomic backgrounds, all sexual orientations, all gender identities and gender expressions, and all other diverse attributes that are woven into the fabric of humankind.

We are called to be as one body, seeking to walk together in the complete life and ministry of our church. With God's grace, we resolve to be an open, inclusive, affirming, and accessible community of faith. We invite all to participate and share in the life and leadership, ministry and fellowship, worship and sacraments, responsibilities, and blessings of our Christian community.

– Approved by Special Vote of the Congregation on Sunday, November 19, 2017, and entered into the Bylaws by vote at the Annual Meeting on February 18, 2018

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