



# First Central Congregational

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

July 5, 2020

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

**Prelude**

Bevan

**Welcome and Announcements**

Rev. Katie Miller

**\*Greeting and Passing of the Peace**

*"The Peace of God be with you."*

*In Unison:* **Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;  
the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.**

*\* Let us rise in body or spirit.*

**Call to Worship**

Rick Brenneman, liturgist

In the colors of the rainbow, we see the sign of God's grace for all creation.

**God of the covenant, you are ever faithful. Your love never ends.**

In the old stories, we see the sign of God's hope for each to live in peace with God and neighbor.

**Teach us your ways, and guide us in your paths of love and forgiveness.**

In each other, we see the sign of God's promise among us.

**May our lives witness to your grace and salvation.**

**\*Processional Hymn**

In the Midst of New Dimensions

# In the Midst of New Dimensions

Julian Rush, 1985; alt.

Gen. 9:12-16; Exod. 13:21-22; Num. 14:14

C C/B F C F Am7 Dm7 G7sus4 G7

1 In the midst of new di-men-sions, in the face of chang-ing ways,  
 2 Through the flood of starv-ing peo - ple, war-ring fac-tions and de - spair,  
 3 As we stand a world di - vid - ed by our own self - seek - ing schemes,  
 4 We are man and we are wom-an, all per-sua-sions, old and young,  
 5 Should the threats of dire pre-dic-tions cause us to with-draw in pain,

C C/B F C F Am7 Dm7 G C

Who will lead the pil-grim peo - ples wan-dering in their sep - arate ways?  
 Who will lift the ol - ive branch-es? Who will light the flame of care?  
 Grant that we, your glob - al vil - lage, might en - vi - sion wid - er dreams.  
 Each a gift in your cre - a - tion, each a love song to be sung.  
 May your blaz-ing phoe-nix spir - it res - ur - rect the church a - gain.

Refrain  
 Am Em F C F C G7 C Dsus4 D7 G7sus4 G7 Am

God of rain-bow, fier - y pil - lar, lead-ing where the ea - gles soar, We your

Em F C F C/E F C/E F C/E Dm7 G7 C

peo-ple, ours the jour-ney now and ev - er, now and ev - er, now and ev - er - more.

Julian Rush, an ordained minister in the United Methodist Church, has spent more than a decade as director of the Colorado AIDS Project. He wrote this hymn on the theme of

Tune: NEW DIMENSIONS 8.7.8.7. with refrain  
 Julian Rush, 1985  
 Arr. The New Century Hymnal, 1994

## **\*Invocation**

Come to us, Holy One, and immerse us in the beauty of life with you. Come to us and enliven our community with the intensity of your love. Come to us and embolden our voices with the urgency of your justice. Amen.

## **\*Gloria**

*Black Hymnal, No. 759*

Glory to the Creator, the Christ, the Holy Spirit, Three in One; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

## **Conversation with the Children**

### **Psalm Lesson**

Psalm 69:13-18

### **Word in Music**

Come Away

Lyn & Stephen Bouma, duet

### **First Testament Lesson**

Genesis 8:13-9:1, 8-17

For the Word of God in scripture,  
For the Word of God within us,  
For the Word of God among us,  
Thanks be to God.

### **Sermon**

Eucatastrophe

Rev. Dr. Scott Jones

### **\* Hymn**

God of the Sparrow, God of the Whale

# God of the Sparrow God of the Whale

1 Thess. 5: 18; Ps. 136

Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1983

(Introduction) G G7 Unison C Em Am Dm

1 God of the spar - row God of the whale  
2 God of the earth-quake God of the storm  
3 God of the rain - bow God of the cross  
4 God of the hun - gry God of the sick  
5 God of the neigh - bor God of the foe  
6 God of the a - ges God near at hand

G7 C FM7 E7 Am Em

God of the swirl - ing stars How does the crea-ture say  
God of the trum - pet blast How does the crea-ture cry  
God of the emp - ty grave How does the crea-ture say  
God of the prod - i - gal How does the crea-ture say  
God of the prun - ing hook How does the crea-ture say  
God of the lov - ing heart How do your chil-dren say

FM7 Em7 Am Dm 1-5 Gsus4 G C 6

Awe How does the crea-ture say Praise  
Woe How does the crea-ture cry Save  
Grace How does the crea-ture say Thanks  
Care How does the crea-ture say Life  
Love How does the crea-ture say Peace  
Joy How do your chil-dren say Home.

After forty years in the ministry, Jaroslav Vajda wrote this text to provoke answers to how and why we serve God. By creating

Tune: ROEDER 5.4.6.7.7.  
Carl F. Schalk. 1983

## **\*Prayer of Confession**

Rev. Dr. Jim Harmon

Holy One, you made the Earth and all that is in it. We give thanks for the sky and the seas, the mountains and the valleys, the trees and the flowers, the birds that fly and the fish that swim and all the animals that walk or crawl or creep on the land. You called on human beings to care for Creation, to serve you and praise you by loving all you have made. We don't always do it well. We remember the story of Noah, and a time when people forgot to take care of the Earth and each other. We ask forgiveness for the ways we fail to love your world with our whole hearts. Help us to do better. Amen.

## **\*Words of Assurance**

God keeps a covenant with us and redeems us. Come into the ark of forgiveness, beloved Children of God!

## **Offertory**

Kremser

## **\*Hymn of Dedication**

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit,  
Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

## **\*Offertory Prayer**

All things have their origin with you, Lord, and from these blessings we freely give, that you work might grow in this place and throughout the world. Amen.

## **Celebration of the Sacrament of Communion**

As grain that was scattered on the hillside was gathered together and made into one loaf, so too, we, scattered at tables in our own homes, are bound together around Christ's table and become one. As grapes grown in the field are gathered together and pressed into wine, so too are we drawn together and pressed by our times to share a common lot and are transformed into Christ's self-giving love for all.

God be with you.

And with your spirit.

Lift up your hearts

**We lift them up to God.**

Give thanks to God.

It is right and good to give God thanks and praise.

Praise to you Divine Creator. Thank you for the gift of life, the beauty of nature, and your

steadfast loving kindness. Praise to you Divine Redeemer. Thank you for sharing our human existence, from birth through death to everlasting life you have shown us a way worth emulating, bringing healing and hope to those most in need. Praise to you Divine Sustainer. Thank you for the vision to see beyond the immediate, a calm in the midst of storm, the strength to build an ever expanding community and the courage to bring about any change necessary within our lives. Today we join in communion with all the saints in every time and age to sing your glory:

From *Deutsche Messe* by Franz Schubert; adapt. by Richard Proulx

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of  
 power and might. might.  
 Heav - en and earth are full,  
 Bless - ed is he who comes  
 full in the of name of your glo - ry. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est, ho -  
 san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution and Invitation to the Table

The Bread and the Cup As We Gather at Your Table

ROLL CALL

332

As We Gather at Your Table

Matt. 22:1-10; Luke 14:16-24

Carl P. Daw, Jr., 1989

1 As we gath - er at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your word,  
2 Turn our wor - ship in - to wit - ness in the sac - ra - ment of life;  
3 Gra - cious Spir - it, help us sum - mon oth - er guests to share that feast

help us know, O God, your pres - ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.  
send us forth to love and serve you, bring - ing peace where there is strife.  
where tri - um - phant Love will wel - come those who had been last and least.

Nour - ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we claim it as our own;  
Give us, Christ, your great com - pas - sion to for - give as you for - gave;  
There no more will en - vy bind us nor will pride our peace de - stroy,

teach us through this ho - ly ban - quet how to make Love's vic - tory known.  
may we still be - hold your im - age in the world you died to save.  
as we join with saints and an - gels to re - peat the sound - ing joy.

In this hymn, commissioned by an Episcopal parish in Virginia for the celebration of its tricentennial, Carl P. Daw, Jr., utilized a

Tune: BEACH SPRING 8.7.8.7.E  
The Sacred Harp, 1844

Prayer of Thanksgiving

\*Recessional Hymn

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

CLOSE OF WORSHIP

77

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

Luke 2:29; Rom. 1:16

Attrib. to John Fawcett, 1773; alt.

1 Lord, dis - miss us with your bless - ing; fill our hearts with  
2 We give thanks and ad - o - ra - tion for your gos - pel's  
3 So that when your love shall call us, Sav - ior, from the

joy and peace; Let us each your love pos - sess - ing,  
joy - ful sound; May the fruits of your sal - va - tion  
world a - way, Fear of death shall not ap - pall us,

tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace: Oh, re - fresh us,  
in our hearts and lives a - bound: Ev - er faith - ful,  
glad your sum - mons to o - bey: May we ev - er,

oh, re - fresh us, trav - eling through this wil - der - ness.  
ev - er faith - ful to the truth may we be found.  
may we ev - er live with you in end - less day.

*Influenced by George Whitefield's preaching, John Fawcett joined the Baptist church, and served as minister in Wainsgate, England, for fifty-four years. Yielding to the persuasion of his*

Tune: SICILIAN MARINERS 8.7.8.7.8.7.  
Sicilian melody, 18th century  
The European Magazine and Review. 1792



## **\*Benediction**

### **Benediction Response**

*Bouma*

May you hear laughter in the wind. May you see hope in the light.  
May you find courage in your faith. May you know joy in your God.

### **Postlude**

Gelobt Sei Gott

#### **Open & Affirming Statement**

In our ongoing quest for hearts that open, minds that understand,  
and lives that serve, we welcome into our fellowship, membership, leadership, and employment,  
all people, regardless of abilities, race, gender, sexual orientation, or any God-given characteristic.

## Announcements

**July 5, 2020**

**Prayers:** *Jim Harmon*, having wrist surgery on Tuesday; *Bud Cassiday*, continuing to recover from a stroke.

**Chancel flowers and decorations:** sponsored this month by *Mary & Randy Solberg, Marilyn Hammond, Tom & Colleen Syster.*

**Happy Birthday this week:** to *Charmayne Harper, Kathy Hoyt, Alexandra Miniard, Jessica Day, Cathy Wester,* and *John Else.*

**Food Pantry:** Donations will be accepted at church – please call first. Checks may be mailed to First Central with “pantry” in the memo line.

### Activities for the Coming Week, July 6 – July 11

*Lectionary Readings: Genesis 25:19-34; Psalm 119:1-5-112; Isaiah 55:10-13; Psalm 65:(1-8), 9-13; Romans 8:1-11; Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23.*

**Monday:** staff meeting, 1:30 p.m.

**Wednesday:** Vespers, 8 p.m. on FaceBook Live

**Thursday:** Book Club, 7 p.m., Zoom

### Sunday, July 12

**Worship:** 10:30 a.m. on YouTube

*Want to donate electronically? Please scan the QR code.*

