



First Central Congregational

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

June 7, 2020

Pentecost

Prelude

What Wondrous Love is This?

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

Claire Bouma, liturgist

How majestic is God's name in all the earth!

We see God's glory in the expanse of the heavens.

All plants and animals are God's creation.

All that God has made reflects God's goodness.

**We are created in God's image and
are given stewardship over the works of God.**

We worship the one who made us and fills us with glory and power.

How majestic is God's name in all the earth!

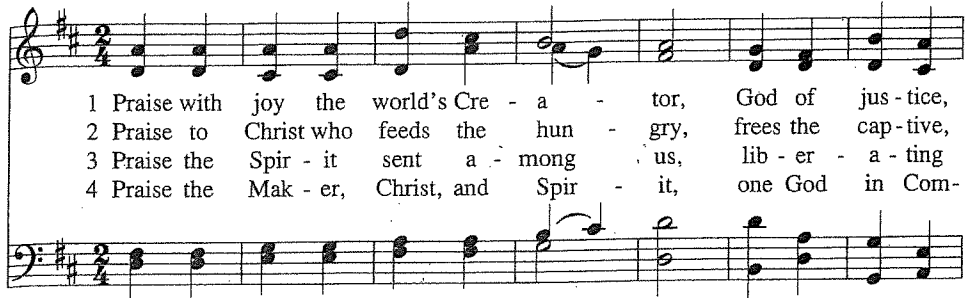
*Processional Hymn

Praise with Joy the World's Creator

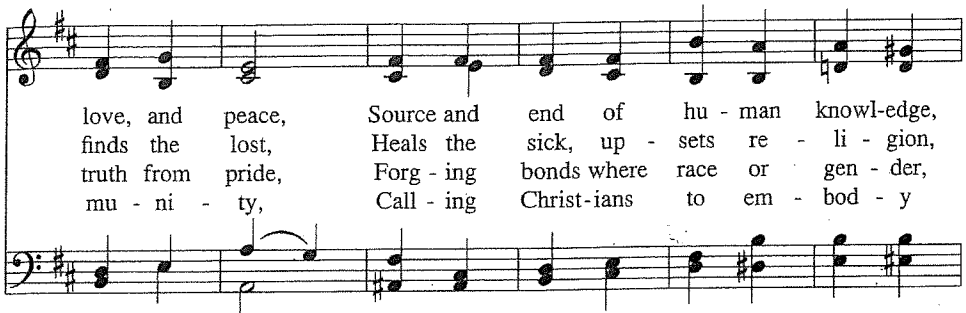
Praise with Joy the World's Creator

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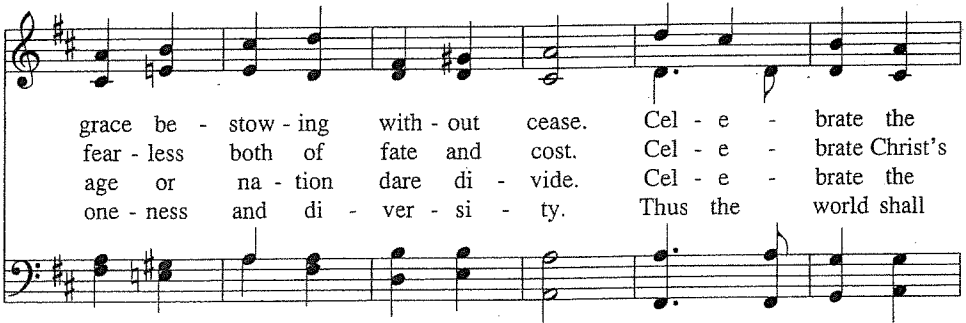
The Iona Community, 1985; alt.



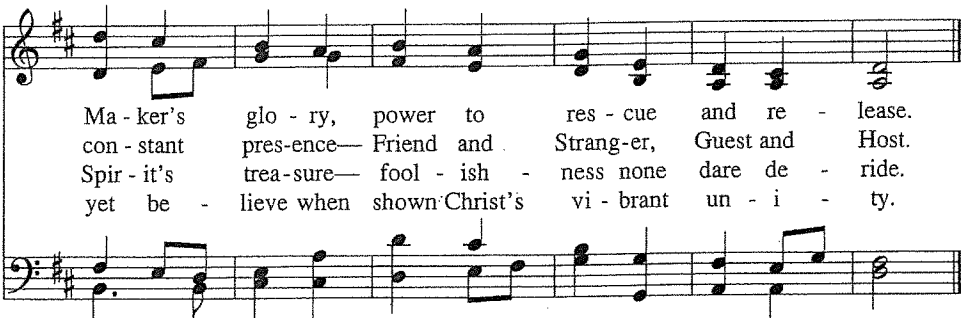
1 Praise with joy the world's Cre - a - tor, God of jus - tice,
2 Praise to Christ who feeds the hun - gry, frees the cap - tive,
3 Praise the Spir - it sent a - mong us, lib - er - a - ting
4 Praise the Mak - er, Christ, and Spir - it, one God in Com -



love, and peace, Source and end of hu - man knowl - edge,
finds the lost, Heals the sick, up - sets re - li - gion,
truth from pride, For - g - ing bonds where race or gen - der,
mu - ni - ty, Call - ing Christ - ians to em - bod - y



grace be - stow - ing with - out cease. Cel - e - brate the
fear - less both of fate and cost. Cel - e - brate Christ's
age or na - tion dare di - vide. Cel - e - brate the
one - ness and di - ver - si - ty. Thus the world shall



Ma - ker's glo - ry, power to res - cue and re - lease.
con - stant pres - ence— Friend and Strang - er, Guest and Host.
Spir - it's trea - sure— fool - ish - ness none dare de - ride.
yet be - lieve when shown Christ's vi - brant un - i - ty.

***Invocation**

Great Creator, you have birthed us into life and nurtured us along our way.
In you we live and move and have our being. To you we bring our offering of praise and thanksgiving. We open ourselves to your presence in this time of worship. Fill us with resolve and purpose, to be your community and to expand our boundaries until all of creation is renewed and all people are welcomed and blessed. This we ask through the risen and ascended Christ who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. 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 8

Word in Music

Sweet Chance, that led my steps abroad
Claire Bouma, soloist

Head

First Testament Lesson

Genesis 1:1-2:4

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

To Make the World

Rev. Dr. Scott Jones

*** Hymn**

Creator God, Creating Still

Creator God, Creating Still

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Jane Parker Huber, 1977; rev. 1993

Rom. 5:1-5

1 Cre - a - tor God, cre - at - ing still, by will -and word and deed,
2 Re - deem-er God, re - deem-ing still, with o - ver-flow-ing grace,
3 Sus - tain - er God, sus - tain - ing still, with strength for ev - ery day,
4 Great Tri - une God, for this new day we need your pres-ence still.

Cre - ate a new hu - man - i - ty to meet the pres-ent need.
Pour out your love on us, through us, make this a ho - ly place.
Em - power us now to do your will. Cor - rect us when we stray.
Cre - ate, re - deem, sus - tain us now to do your work and will.

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*Prayer of Confession

Rev. Dr. Jim Harmon

Holy God, we were created in your image, an image of mutuality and respect for one another; an image of a dance ever moving, ever in tune one with others;

an image of community with shared blessing and mission. You have given us stewardship over the work of your hands. You have charged us to be fruitful and multiply, to join you in making the world.

Forgive us God; we have denied our purpose.

We have abused the earth's resources for our own selfish gain and the consequences wreak havoc upon the fish of the sea, the birds of the air and every living thing that moves upon the earth.

Forgive us God; we have defiled your image.

We have regarded some of your children as "other" and tolerated systems of oppression and abuse too long.

Forgive us God; for we have sinned.

***Words of Assurance**

God desires to see broken relationships restored and has heard our prayer. In the name of Jesus the Christ and in the power of the Holy Spirit, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

Prayers

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Our Father 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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

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**

Receive these gifts, even our very lives for your service. Multiply them and our effort to meet the need. We are yours God, use us we pray to recreate 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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of

1. power and might. 2. might.

Heav - en and earth are full,
Bless - ed is he who comes

full in the of name of your the glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est, ho -

san - na in the high - est.

(C)

Words of Institution and Invitation to the Table

The Bread and the Cup

Let Us Break Bread Together

Let Us Break Bread Together

OLY COMMUNION
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Harmonization Copyright 1986 by G.I.A. Publications, Inc.

1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;
* 2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;
3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;

let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.
let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.
let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.

Refrain

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing sun.

My God, have mer - cy on me.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

***Recessional Hymn**

Womb of Life and Source of Being

Womb of Life and Source of Being

Womb of life, and source of being, home of every restless heart, in your arms the worlds awakened; you have loved us from the start. We, your children, gather 'round you, at the table you prepare, Sharing stories, tears and laughter, we are nurtured by your care.

Word in flesh, our brother Jesus, born to bring us second birth, you have come to stand beside us, knowing weakness, knowing earth. Priest who shares our human struggles, Life of Life and Death of Death, Risen Christ, come stand among us, send the Spirit by your breath.

Brooding Spirit, move among us; be our partner, be our friend. When our memory fails, remind us whose we are, what we intend. Labor with us, aid the birthing of the new world yet to be, Free of servant, lord and master, free for love and unity.

Mother, Brother, holy Partner; Father, Spirit, Only Son: we would praise your name forever, one-in-three, and three-in-one. We would share your life, your passion, share your word of world made new, Ever singing, ever praising, one with all, and one with you.

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***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

Sinfonia from Solomon

Handel

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.