



First Central Congregational

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

July 12, 2020

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude

Hyfrydol

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

Yvette Polinsky, liturgist

(based on Zephaniah 3:14-20)

Sing aloud, Children of God, and shout. Rejoice and exult with all your heart.

God is in our midst; we shall fear disaster no more.

God rejoices over us with gladness and renews us in love.

As on a day of festival, let us sing.

God will gather us home again. Our fortunes will be restored.

Sing aloud, Children of God, and shout. Rejoice and exult with all your heart.

***Processional Hymn**

Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life

Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life

543

Frank Mason North, 1903; alt.

Luke 19:41; Matt. 10:42; Rev. 22:20

1 Where cross the crowd - ed ways of life, where sound the
2 In haunts of wretch - ed - ness and need, on shad-owed
3 From ten - der child - hood's help - less - ness, from hu - man
4 The cup of wa - ter given for you still holds the

cries of clan and race, A - bove the noise of self - ish
thresh-olds framed with fears, From paths where hide the lures of
griefs and bur - dened toil, From fam - ished souls, from sor - rows'
fresh-ness of your grace; Yet long these mul - ti - tudes to

strife, O Christ, we hear your voice of grace.
greed, we catch the vi - sion of your tears.
stress, we know your heart does not re - coil.
view the deep com - pas - sion of your face.

5 O Sav-ior, from
the moun-tain-side,
Make haste to heal
these hearts of pain;
A-mong these rest-less
throgs a-bide,
O tread the cit-y's streets a-gain:

6 Till all shall learn
com-pas-sion's might,
And fol-low where
your feet have trod,
Till glo-rious from
your realm of light,
Shall come the cit-y of our God.

***Invocation**

Come to us, Holy One, in the midst of our diversity. Bring to us understanding and mutual caring. Remind us that we are all your children. Open us to possibilities. We celebrate the curiosity, creativity, and freedom you give us. Help us to become who you have always dreamed we might be. 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 84

Word in Music

Variations on an Original Tune
Margot Wickman and Morgan Bennett

Bouma

First Testament Lesson

Genesis 11:1-9

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

Scattered and Gathered

Rev. Dr. Scott Jones

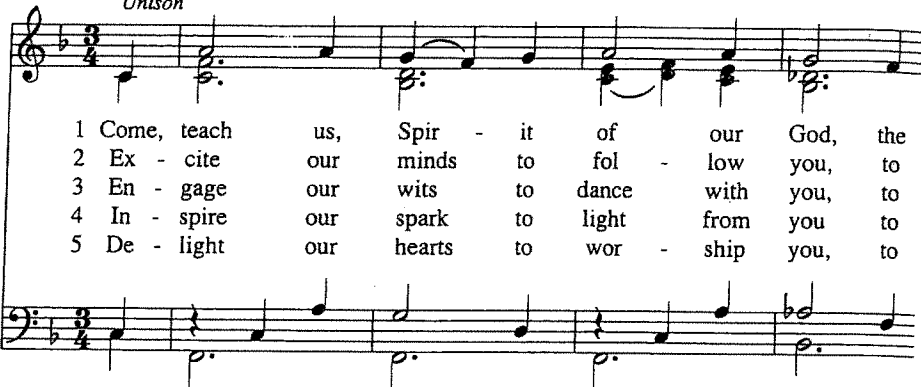
*** Hymn**

Come, Teach Us, Spirit of Our God

Come, Teach Us, Spirit of Our God

Shirley Erena Murray, 1

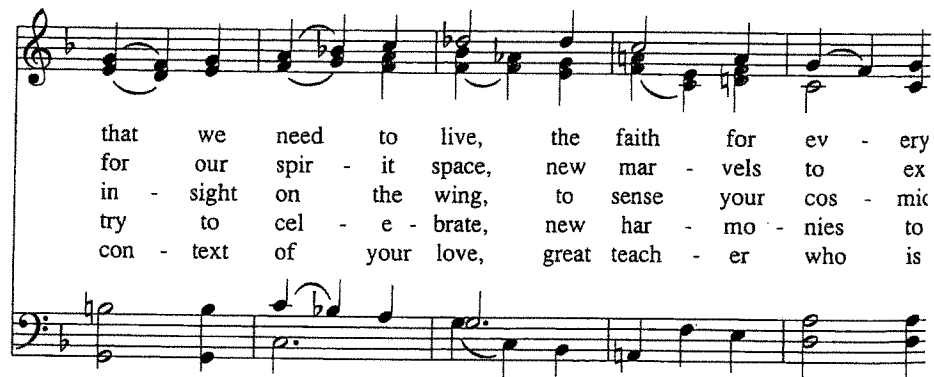
Unison



1 Come, teach us, Spir - it of our God, the
 2 Ex - cite our minds to fol - low you, to
 3 En - gage our wits to dance with you, to
 4 In - spire our spark to light from you to
 5 De - light our hearts to wor - ship you, to



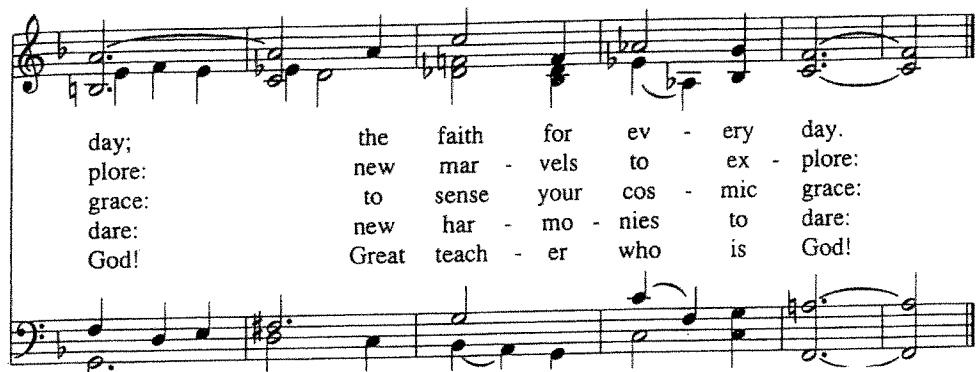
lan - guage of your way, the les - son:
 trace new truths in store, new flight path
 leap from log - ic's base, to cap - ture
 catch cre - a - tion's flair, new ar - tis
 learn com - pas - sion's code, to live in



that we need to live, the faith for ev - ery
 for our spir - it space, new mar - vels to ex
 in - sight on the wing, to sense your cos - mic
 try to cel - e - brate, new har - mo - nies to
 con - text of your love, great teach - er who is



2&7 cont.



day; the faith for ev - ery day.
plore: new mar - vels to ex - plore:
grace: to sense your cos - mic grace:
dare: new har - mo - nies to dare:
God! Great teach - er who is God!

*Prayer of Confession

Rev. Dr. Jim Harmon

O God of truth and love, in our pride and in our fear we have built up walls between ourselves and our neighbors. Behind our walls, we hear neither their laughter nor their cries. Above all, those walls separate us from your love and your Word. We are lonely and mute. Break down those walls. Help us to hear and understand our neighbors. Give us speech to share your Word with them. Bless them and us, that we may come to grow in love for each other and for you, through the Spirit of Jesus Christ. Amen.

*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.

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

Nun Komm

*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

Gracious God, filled by your generosity to us, may we be generous to others. We offer back to you a portion of what we have been given. Accept these gifts, as we commit ourselves to you. Amen.

*Recessional Hymn

In Christ There Is No East or West

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In Christ There Is No East or West

1 Cor. 12:13; Gal. 3:28; Eph. 2:14-22

*John Oxenham, 1908; alt.
St. 3, Laurence Hull Stookey, 1987*

1 In Christ there is no East or West, in Christ no South or North;
2 In Christ shall true hearts ev - ery - where their high com - mu - nion find;
3 In Christ is nei - ther Jew nor Greek, and nei - ther slave nor free;
4 In Christ now meet both East and West, in Christ meet South and North;

But one com - mu - ni - ty of love through - out the whole wide earth.
God's ser - vice is the gold - en cord close - bind - ing hu - man - kind.
For men and wom - en live in God, and all are kin to me.
One joy - ous, true com - mu - ni - ty through - out the whole wide earth.

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*Benediction

Benediction Response

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.

Bouma

Postlude

Hyfrydol

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 12, 2020

Prayers: *Jim Harmon*, recovering from wrist surgery; *Jan Nurnburger*, now in hospice.

Joys: we are celebrating the 10th anniversary of *Rev. Dr. Scott Jones* beginning his ministry with us!

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

Happy Birthday this week: to *Al Dietrich, Steve Dolezal, Pet Fey, Peg Peterson, Max Schneider, Sherry Smith, Megan Kensler Holmstedt,* and *Kathy Felger.*

Activities for the Coming Week, July 13 – July 18

*Lectionary Readings: Genesis 28:10-19a; Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24;
Wisdom of Solomon 12:13, 16-19; Romans 8:12-25; Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43.*

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

Tuesday: Council, 7 p.m., Zoom.

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

Thursday: Stewardship Committee, 7 p.m., at *Erin Bock's* home, 2321 No. 55th St. or on Zoom.

Sunday, July 19

Worship: 10:30 a.m. on YouTube

Want to donate electronically? Please scan the QR code.

