



First Central Congregational

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

FALL THEME: BRAVE SPACE

October 10, 2021

World Communion Sunday

Prelude

Pat Miller & Dave Shipley, pianists

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

Susan Fortina, liturgist

We come to meet God here.

Let all who are hurting find comfort in this place.

We have come that God might raise us up.

Let all who are in despair find hope in this place.

We have come to be equipped for the work ahead.

Let all who are struggling find courage in this place.

We have come to worship God.

Give thanks, for God's glory shines on us today.

***Processional Hymn**

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

1

Walter C. Smith, 1867; alt.

1 Tim. 1:17; Ps. 36:6

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3 Your life is life - giv - ing— to both great and small;
 4 So per - fect your glo - ry, so bril - liant your light,

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 not want - ing, not wast - ing, but rul - ing in might;
 in all life you're liv - ing, the true life of all;
 your an - gels a - dore you, all veil - ing their sight;

Most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 Your jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove,
 We blos - som and flour - ish as leaves and as flowers,
 All praise we now ren - der as your an - gels do:

al - might - y, vic - to - rious, your great name we praise.
 your clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 then with - er and per - ish— but naught dims your powers.
 in awe at the splen - dor of light hid - ing you.

Walter C. Smith, minister of the Free Church of Scotland and later moderator of the Assembly, wrote poetry as a retreat from work and to say what could not be fully expressed in the pulpit

Tune: ST. DENIO 11.11.11.
 Adapt. from a Welsh ballad in John Roberts' Caniadaeth y Cysepor 1839

***Invocation**

We have trusted in you, eternal God, and that trust brings us to this time of worship. Today, your steadfast love becomes evident again as we sing our songs of thanksgiving and tell of your wondrous deeds. Help us to receive your blessings and to welcome your loving embrace.
Amen.

***Gloria**

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

First Testament Lesson

Jeremiah 1:1-6

Pew Bible, Page 656

Gospel Lesson

Mark 1:40-44

Pew Bible, Pages 33-34

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

I Hate the Word Evangelism

Rev. Katie Miller

***Hymn**

Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love

Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love

John 13:1-20; Gal. 5:13-14

Tom Colvin, 1969; rev. 1994

Refrain Unison

Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love, show

us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you.

1 Knelt at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - ing their
 2 Neigh-bors are rich and poor, var - ied in col - or and
 3 These are the ones we should serve, these are the ones we should
 4 Lov - ing puts us on our knees, show - ing our faith by our
 5 Kneel at the feet of our friends, si - lent - ly wash - ing their

feet, Je - su, you act - ed as ser - vant to them.
 race, neigh-bors are near and far a - way.
 love; all these are neigh-bors to us and you.
 deeds, serv - ing the neigh-bors we have from you.
 feet, this is the way we should live with you.

This African folk melody was presented to the Church at

Tune: CHEREPONI Irr. with refrain

***Prayer of Confession**

O God, you sowed the seeds of justice when you created this world. Though your bountiful creation has enough for everyone, the sharing is not fair. There are those who struggle to get their daily bread each day, and then there are those who have more than they can use in their lifetime. Forgive us when we are more attached to our things than we willingly acknowledge. May we remember that all we have comes from you. May we take your commandments to heart so we can do as Jesus asks of us. Amen.

*** Assurance**

You embrace us as children, comforting us with your love. You bless us and forgive us, offering us a fresh start. We rejoice and give thanks.

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

***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**

Generous God, we thank you for all that we have for all of it comes from you. We gratefully return a portion of what we have to you. May our offerings sustain and support the work of this church to close the disparity between those who have much and those who have little in this community. Amen.

***Recessional Hymn**

We Plant a Grain of Mustard Seed

SERVICE

540

We Plant a Grain of Mustard Seed

Matt. 13:31-32; Mark 4:30-32; Luke 13:18-19;
John 13:34-35; 15:12-17

Mary Bryan Matney, 1990

1 We plant a grain of mus-tard seed, and in our faith we find
2 Our ac-tions, more than words, de-fine how love's ex-am-ple feeds
3 When stooped to lend a help-ing hand, we find a touch that heals,
4 Make love our pur-pose, love our aim, for love en-dures all things,

the proof of God is love, in-deed, which blos-soms from its kind;
a great-er love, for love di-vine bursts forth from small-est seeds;
for love in-vest-ed will ex-pand to bear the fruit love yields;
and choos-ing love our lives will claim the peace for-give-ness brings;

the proof of God is love, in-deed, which blos-soms from its kind.
a great-er love, for love di-vine bursts forth from small-est seeds.
for love in-vest-ed will ex-pand to bear the fruit love yields.
and choos-ing love our lives will claim the peace for-give-ness brings.

5 So may our new be-gin-nings prove,
like liv-ing bread and wine,
that through our com-mon hu-man love
we taste what is di-vine;
that through our com-mon hu-man love
we taste what is di-vine.

6 Our lives will be ful-filled and blessed
if through the seeds we've sown
and by the love that we pro-fess
the love of Christ is known;
and by the love that we pro-fess
the love of Christ is known.

***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

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
October 10, 2021

Joys: *Lou & Pat Lamberty*, celebrating the birth of their first great grandchild - ***Harlan Emile Smith***, son of ***Emily Lamberty Smith & Sam Smith***; ***Garret Higginbotham***, completing his PhD.!

Happy Birthday this week: to ***Sisco Ajang, Peggy Christensen, Pat Lamberty, Karla Villatoro, Pauline Bahnke, Nancy Glasser, Natalie Lewis, Matthew Kennedy, and Billy Sharp.***

Chancel flowers and decorations: sponsored this month by ***Janet Kuehl, Deb Welk.***

FirstKids: Fireside Room following the Conversation with the Children. Masks required.

Fair Trade Coffee: sponsors this month ***Neha Kumari, Deb Welk, Nikki Zimmerman.***

Movie Night: 5:30 p.m. "Bed Knobs and Broomsticks," Courtyard.

Want to donate electronically? Please scan the QR code.



Activities for the Coming Week, October 11 – October 16

*Lectionary Readings: Job 38:1-7, ((34-41); Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35c; Isaiah 53:4-12;
Psalm 91:9-16; Hebrews 5:1-10; Mark 10:35-45.*

Monday: Staff meeting, 1:30 p.m., Pastor's Study.

Tuesday: Council. 7 p.m., Zoom or in person.

Wednesday: Evergreen Thrift Shop 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Family Night, brown bag dinner at 5:30, activities at 6 p.m.
Sanctuary Choir, 7 p.m.
Vespers, 8 p.m.

Thursday: Evergreen Thrift Shop 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Friday: Evergreen Thrift Shop 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Saturday: Evergreen Thrift Shop 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Luther MacNaughton memorial service, 11 a.m.

Sunday, October 17

Worship: 10:30 a.m. on FaceBook Live, YouTube, or in person. Masks required.

Bible Study: 9:15 a.m., third floor parlor.

FirstKids: Fireside Room following the Conversation with the Children. Masks required.

*The church calendar is also available at www.firstcentral.org
Like us on **Facebook**. Follow us on **Twitter**. Watch us on **YouTube**.*