



First Central Congregational

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

WORSHIP THEME: EVANGELISM

October 17, 2021

Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude

Adagio Cantabile

Beethoven

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Dr. Scott Jones

***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

Jim Ogden, liturgist

Arise, our light is come! Show forth the glory of our God.

**Fling wide the prison door, proclaim the captive's liberty,
good tidings to the poor.**

Arise, our light is come! The mountains burst in song.

Bind up the broken-hearted ones and comfort those who mourn.

Arise, our light is come!

God's power will make us strong.

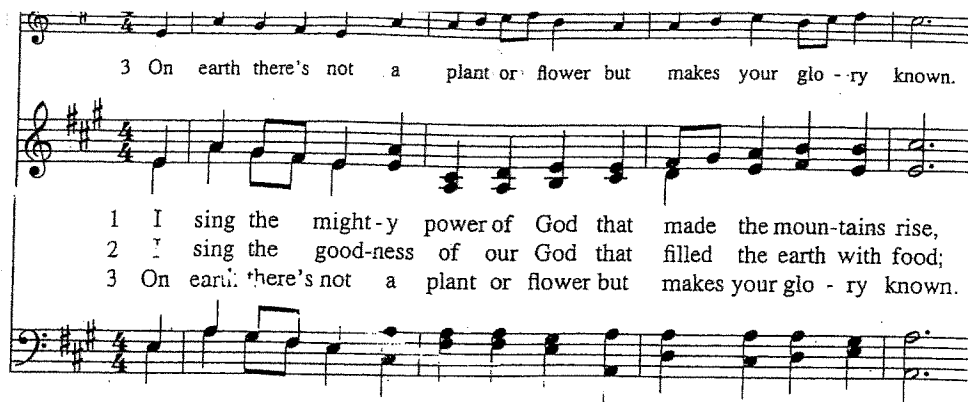
***Processional Hymn**

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

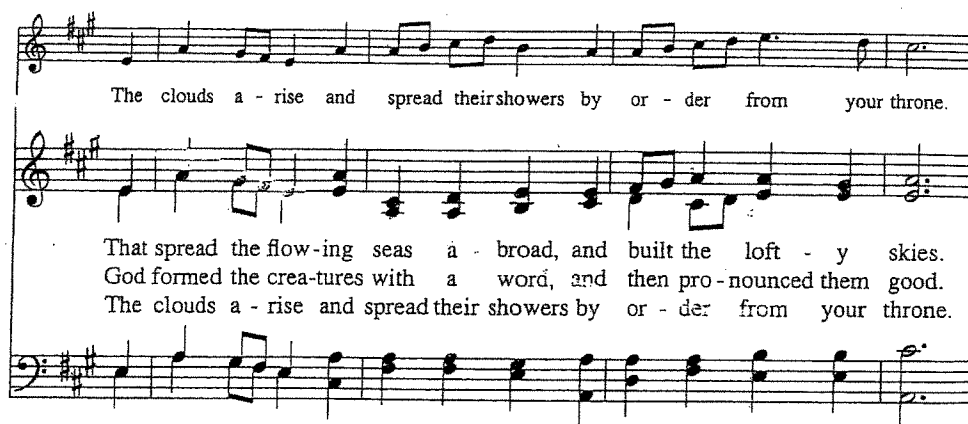
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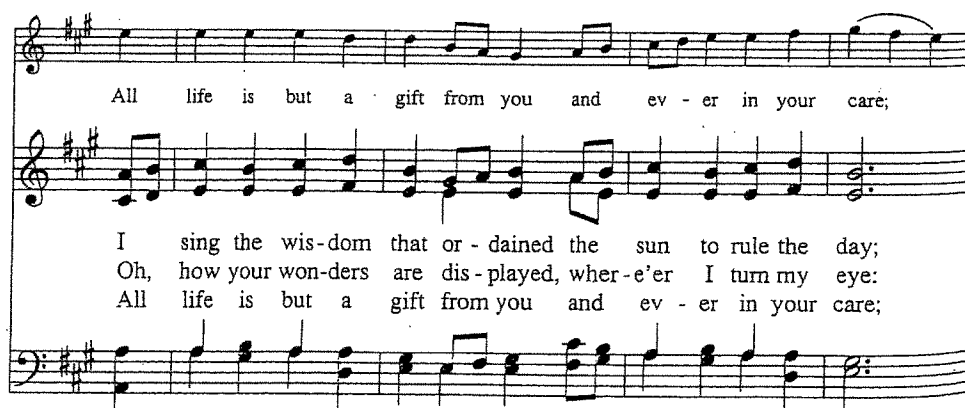
3 On earth there's not a plant or flower but makes your glo - ry known.

1 I sing the might-y power of God that made the moun-tains rise,
 2 I sing the good-ness of our God that filled the earth with food;
 3 On earth there's not a plant or flower but makes your glo - ry known.



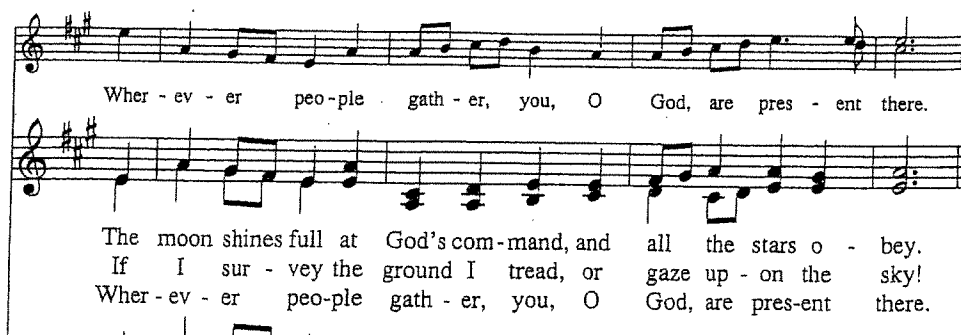
The clouds a - rise and spread their showers by or - der from your throne.

That spread the flow-ing seas a - broad, and built the loft - y skies.
 God formed the crea-tures with a word, and then pro-nounced them good.
 The clouds a - rise and spread their showers by or - der from your throne.



All life is but a gift from you and ev - er in your care;

I sing the wis-dom that or - dained the sun to rule the day;
 Oh, how your won-ders are dis-played, wher-e'er I turn my eye:
 All life is but a gift from you and ev - er in your care;



Wher - ev - er peo-ple gath - er, you, O God, are pres - ent there.

The moon shines full at God's com-mand, and all the stars o - bey.
 If I sur - vey the ground I tread, or gaze up - on the sky!
 Wher - ev - er peo-ple gath - er, you, O God, are pres-ent there.

***Invocation**

Gracious God, your tent is wide enough to provide shelter for all who seek you, food for all who hunger, and healing for all who suffer. Meet us here today, and fill us with confidence in your presence, that we may risk being your witnesses so that the world may become the place of love and justice you desire for all. Shelter us with your light and clothe us with glory. Teach us how we may best serve one another on this daring adventure. 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

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 28:16-20

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

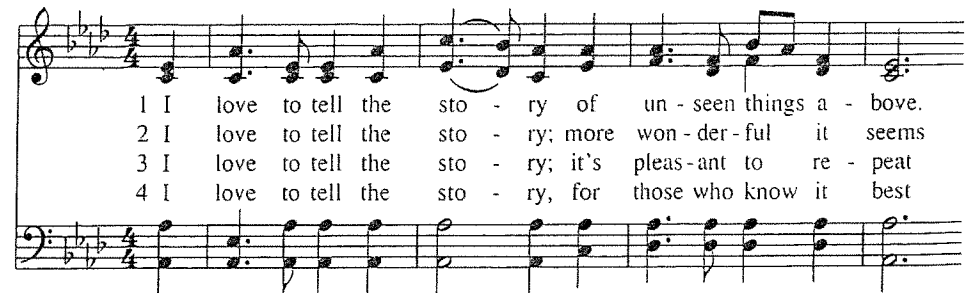
Go Therefore

Rev. Dr. Scott Jones

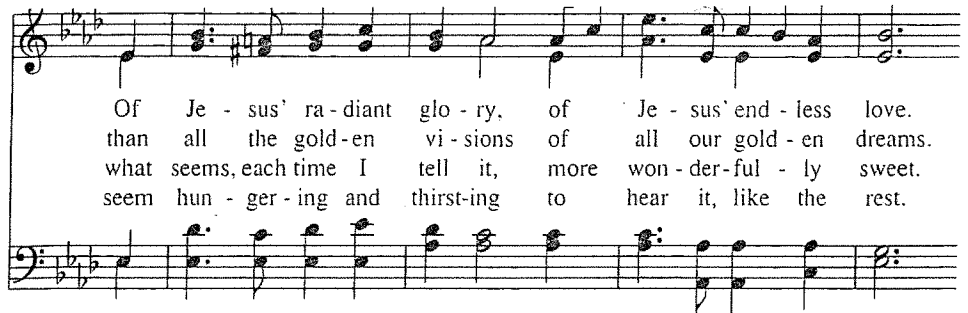
***Hymn**

I Love to Tell the Story

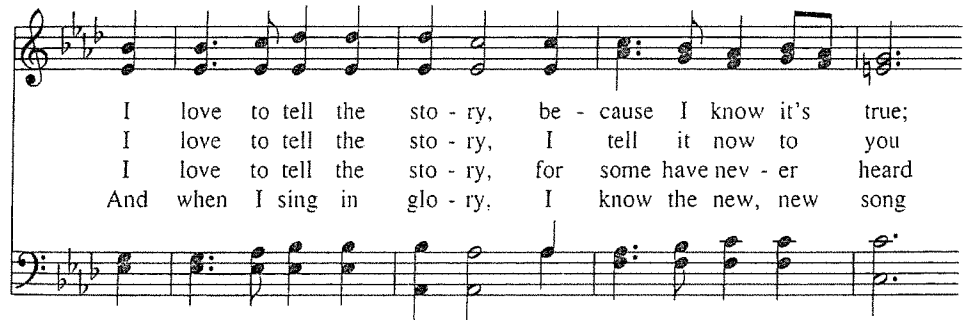
I Love to Tell the Story

Katherine Hankey, 1866; alt.


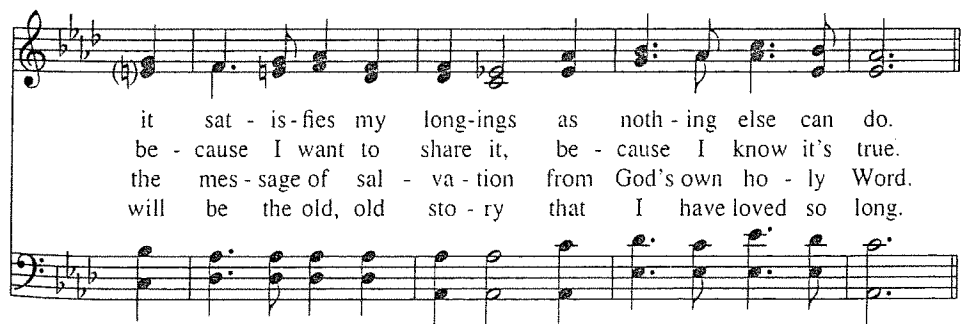
1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove.
 2 I love to tell the sto - ry; more won - der - ful it seems
 3 I love to tell the sto - ry; it's pleas - ant to re - peat
 4 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best



Of Je - sus' ra - diant glo - ry, of Je - sus' end - less love.
 than all the gold - en vi - sions of all our gold - en dreams.
 what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet.
 seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it, like the rest.



I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;
 I love to tell the sto - ry, I tell it now to you
 I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard
 And when I sing in glo - ry, I know the new, new song



it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else can do.
 be - cause I want to share it, be - cause I know it's true.
 the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly Word.
 will be the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.



522 cont.

Refrain

The musical score is written for two staves, treble and bass clef, in a key of two flats (B-flat major or D minor) and 4/4 time. The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the staves.

I love to tell the sto - ry; and when I am in glo - ry

I'll tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus' end - less love.

***Prayer of Confession**

Rev. Dr. Jim Harmon

Merciful God, you have moved and changed our lives in amazing ways, yet we have kept these stories to ourselves. We confess the times we have kept these stories to ourselves out of fear of rejection and misunderstanding. Help us believe that your good news of grace is the best story to tell. May we then tell it with love, joy, and courage. Amen.

*** Assurance**

The Spirit fills us with glory and power that we might have the courage to follow in the way of Jesus. May God's light shine through us so that the world moves closer to God's dream of justice and peace.

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

Minuet

Beethoven

***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, may this offering assist us in continuing Christ's work in the world to heal the grief, transgressions, and illnesses that oppress and harm your creation. Amen.

***Recessional Hymn**

All Creatures of Our God and King

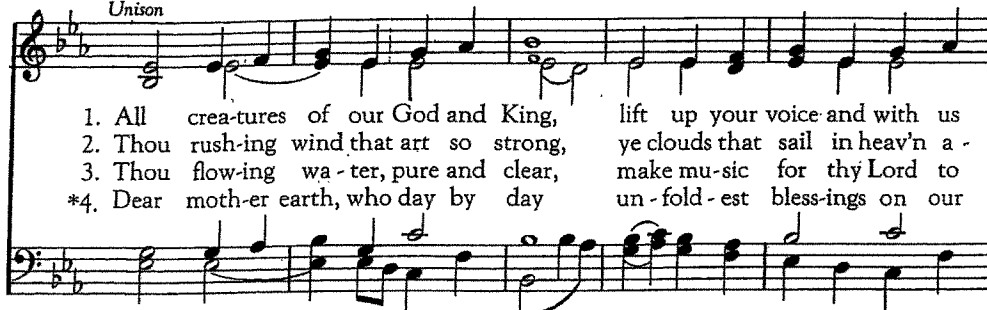
All Creatures of Our God and King

St. Francis of Assisi, c. 1225; tr. W. H. Draper, 1855-1933

Melody in *Auserlesene . . . Geistliche Gesänge*
(Cologne, 1623); in this form from 1635;
harmonized by R. Vaughan Williams, 1906

LASST UNS ERFREUEN, LM with additions

Unison



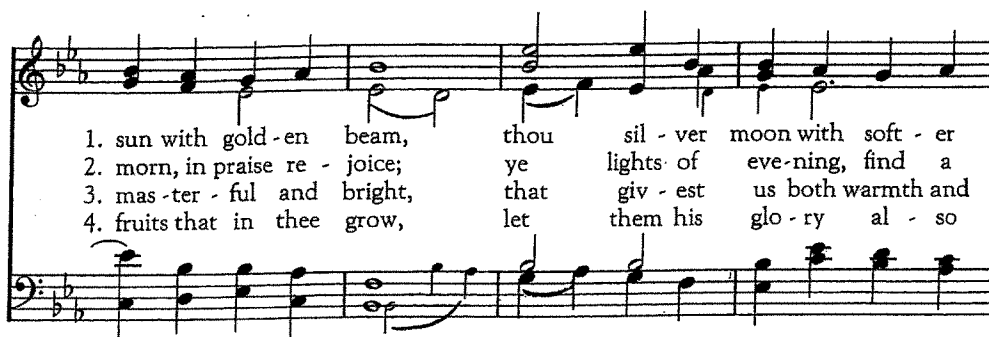
1. All crea-tures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us
2. Thou rush-ing wind that art so strong, ye clouds that sail in heav'n a -
3. Thou flow-ing wa - ter, pure and clear, make mu-sic for thy Lord to
*4. Dear moth-er earth, who day by day un-fold - est bless-ings on our

Harmony

Unison

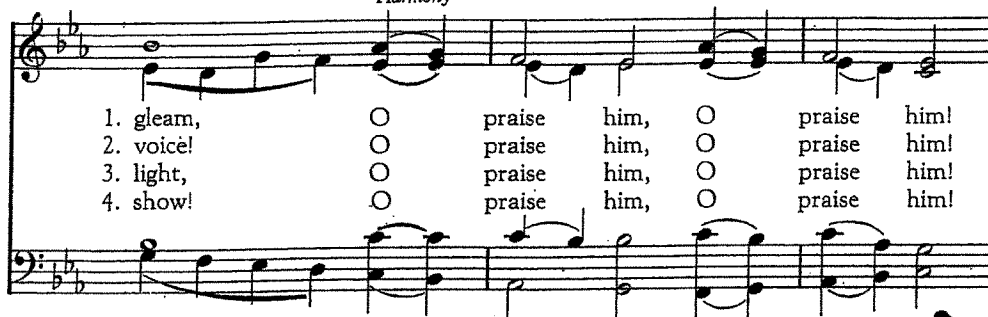


1. sing, Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Thou burn - ing
2. long, O praise him, Al-le - lu - ia! Thou ris - ing
3. hear, Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Thou fire so
4. way, O praise him, Al-le - lu - ia! The flowers and



1. sun with gold - en beam, thou sil - ver moon with soft - er
2. morn, in praise re - jice; ye lights of eve - ning, find a
3. mas - ter - ful and bright, that giv - est us both warmth and
4. fruits that in thee grow, let them his glo - ry al - so

Harmony



1. gleam, O praise him, O praise him!
2. voice! O praise him, O praise him!
3. light, O praise him, O praise him!
4. show! O praise him, O praise him!

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U.S. agents; music harmonized by Ralph Vaughn Williams (1872-1958) from the *English Hymnal*, used by
permission of Oxford University Press

4 con-

Unison

1. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

2. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

3. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

4. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

- *5. All ye who are of tender heart,
forgiving others, take your part.
Sing his praises, Alleluia!
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,
praise God and on him cast your care!
O praise him, O praise him, Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia!
- *6. And thou, most kind and gentle death,
waiting to hush our latest breath,
O praise him, Alleluia!
Thou leadest home the child of God,
and Christ our Lord the way hath trod:
O praise him, O praise him, Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia!
7. Let all things their Creator bless
and worship him in humbleness!
O praise him, Alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, Three in One:
O praise him, O praise him, Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia!

*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

Bagatelle in G minor

Beethoven

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 17, 2021

Happy Birthday this week: to *Evan Milton, Elizabeth Wearin, Desi Phillips*, and *Elijah Sturek*.

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*.

Want to donate electronically? Please scan the QR code.



Activities for the Coming Week, October 18 – October 23

Lectionary Readings: Job 42:1-6, 10-17; Psalm 34:1-8, (19-22); Jeremiah 31:7-9; Psalm 126; Hebrews 7:23-28; Mark 10-46-52.

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

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.
Ministry Support, 7 p.m.

Friday: Evergreen Thrift Shop 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
CEOs, 6 p.m., *Hiro*, 3655 N. 129th St. Please RSVP to **Colleen or Tom Syster**,
402-619-5530

Saturday: Evergreen Thrift Shop 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Sunday, October 24

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**.*