



First Central Congregational

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Epiphany Theme: Arise, Shine!

February 20, 2022

Seventh Sunday After Epiphany

Prelude

Jesus, Sustain Me
Please respect those who wish to sit in silence.

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

Garrett Higginbotham

God is our refuge in whom we trust.

Our faith nourishes us as we rest in God's care.

We want to live life in all its abundance.

God provides for us. God gives us power and purpose.

God raises us up and sends us forth.

God will help us wherever we go.

*Processional Hymn

We Worship You God

Black Hymnal, No. 26

LYONS

Ps. 104:2-6, 10-13

Robert Grant, 1833; alt.

1 We wor - ship you, God; your power and your love
 2 We tell of your might, we sing of your grace,
 3 The earth, with its store of won - ders un - told,
 4 Your boun - ti - ful care, what tongue can re - cite?
 5 Frail chil - dren of dust, and fee - ble as frail,

are bla - zoned a - broad, a - round, and a - bove:
 whose robe is the light, whose can - o - py space;
 Al - might - y, your power has found - ed of old,
 It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;
 in you do we trust, nor find you to fail;

Our Shield and De - fend - er, the An - cient of Days,
 Your char - iots of wrath the deep thun - der - clouds form,
 Es - tab - lished it fast by a change-less de - cree,
 It streams from the hills, it de - scends to the plain,
 Your mer - cies how ten - der, how firm to the end,

pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor, and gird - ed with praise.
 and broad is your path on the wings of the storm.
 and round it you cast, like a man - tle, the sea.
 and sweet - ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.
 our Mak - er, De - fend - er, Re - deem - er, and Friend!

Born in Bengal, India, Robert Grant became a lawyer in England, a member of Parliament, and for the last four years of his life was governor of Bombay. This text

Tune: LYONS 10.10.11.11.
 Attrib. to J. Michael Haydn (1737-1806)
 Alternate tune: HANOVER

*Invocation

Holy One, you are deep within our world, calling us to join you in creating abundant life for all. Open our hearts. Free us to trust your call and follow. Enable us to repent and forgive. We want to join in your work to make all things new. In Jesus' name we pray. 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

First Testament Lesson

1 Kings 17:17-24, pew Bible page 309

Psalter

Psalm 116:1-9

I love the GOD WHO SAVES, because she has heard
my cry and my supplications.

Because she inclined her ear to me,

I will continue to call all my days.

The snares of death encompassed me;

the pangs of Sheol found me.

I found distress and anguish.

Then I called on the name of SHE WHO IS LIFE:

"FOUNT OF LIFE, pray, save my life!"

Gracious is the SAVING GOD, and righteous;

our God mother-loves deeply.

SHE WHO IS WISDOM protects those without guile;

I was brought low and she saved me.

Return, my soul, to your rest,

for SHE WHO IS FAITHFUL has rewarded you abundantly.

For you have delivered my soul from death,

my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling.

I will walk before the LIVING GOD

in the land of the living.

Anthem

Soon And Very Soon

Scripture Lessons

Luke 7:11-17; Acts 9:36-42,
pew Bible pages 61, 120

Sermon

Your Power

Rev. Dr. Scott Jones

*Hymn

O Mighty God, When I Survey in Wonder

Black Hymnal, No. 35

O STORE GUD

O Mighty God, When I Survey in wonder

Carl Boberg, 1885

Transl. The New Century Hymnal, 1994

1 O might-y God, when I sur-vey in won - der the world that
 2 When your voice speaks in rolls of thun-der peal - ing, your light-ning
 3 The Bi - ble tells the sto - ry of your bless - ing so free - ly
 4 And when, at last, the clouds of doubt dis - pers - ing, you will re -

formed when once the word you said, The strands of life all wo-ven close to -
 pow - er bursts in bright sur - prise; When cool - ing rain, your gen-tle love re -
 shed up - on all hu - man life; Your con - stant mer - cy, ev - ery care ad -
 veal what we but dim - ly see; With trum - pet call, our great re - birth an -

Refrain

geth - er, the whole cre - a - tion at your ta - ble fed,
 veal - ing, re - flects your prom - ise, arc - ing through the skies, (1-3) My soul cries
 dress - ing, re - liev - ing bur - dened souls from sin and strife.
 nounc - ing, we shall re - join you for e - ter - ni - ty, (4) Then we will

out in songs of praise to you, O might-y God! O might-y God! My soul cries
 sing your praise for - ev - er more, O might-y God! O might-y God! Then we will

out in songs of praise to you, O might-y God! O might-y God!
 sing your praise for - ev - er - more, O might-y God! O might-y God!

***Confession**

You call us to turn our lives around, to risk repentance and learn forgiveness, to work with patience and diligence to prepare the way for your reign, but we get discouraged and give up too soon. Lord, have mercy upon us.

***Assurance**

God is merciful and calls on us to offer mercy. God forgives us and bids us to forgive others. God's love is always available to us and is enough for us to pass on. Let us live as people empowered by the grace of 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

Slane

***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**

Dear God, we bring before you our diversity of gifts, knowing that they will be multiplied for the benefit of many. O God of resurrection, who makes all things new, accept our offering to both give and receive, trusting that there is abundance in togetherness, and generosity in you. Amen.

***Recessional Hymn**

God of Grace and God of Glory *Black Hymnal*, No. 436

CWM RHONDDA

God of Grace and God of Glory

436

Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1930; alt.

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple
 2 From the e - vils that sur - round us and as - sail the
 3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
 4 Set our feet on loft - y plac - es; gird our lives that
 5 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour your power; crown your an - cient church - 's sto - ry;
 Sav - ior's ways, from the fears that long have bound us—
 your con - trol. Shame our reck - less, self - ish glad - ness,
 they may be ar - mored with all Christ - like grac - es,
 we de - plore; let the search for your sal - va - tion

bring its bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 free our hearts for faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 in the fight to set us free. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
 make our bro - ken spir - its whole, make our bro - ken spir - its whole.
 in the quest for lib - er - ty, in the quest for lib - er - ty.
 serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

Harry Emerson Fosdick, a prophetic preacher and writer, taught

Tune: CWM RHONDDA 8.7.8.7.8.7.7.

***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.

Postlude

McKee

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

February 20, 2022

Prayers: For *Barbara MacNaughton*, currently in the hospital.

Happy Birthday this week: *Allison Brown, Sarah Lynn Malena, Chloe Fortina, Jeannie Bates, Mia Spencer, Karen Garver, Violet Little, Bowen Steffen,* and *Anthony Wiglusz.*

To Be More Task Force: Join the To Be More Task Force for a brainstorming open house for the renovation of the gym on Sunday, February 27th before or after church in the parlor. Please join us at 9:00 a.m. or 11:30 a.m. to share your ideas on how you see the future of the gym. If you are unable to attend and have ideas please feel free to contact Justin or Bethany Lowndes at j.b.lowndes12@gmail.com.

Coffee Hour: Due to the rates of COVID-19 cases in Douglas County, there will be no coffee hour this week.

Fair Trade Coffee: Thank you to Tina and Rita Grossenstein for donating Fair Trade Coffee for the month of February!

Chancel Flowers and Decorations: Flowers and decorations are sponsored this month by Janet Kuehl and Deb Welk.

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

Want to donate electronically? Please scan the QR code.



Activities for the Coming Week February 20-27

Lectioary Readings: Exodus 34:29-35, Psalm 99, 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2, Luke 9:28-36 (37-43a)

- Monday:** Presidents' Day
Church Office Closed
- Wednesday:** Evergreen Thrift Shop 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Family Night, 5:30
Sanctuary Choir, 7 p.m.
- Thursday:** Evergreen Thrift Shop 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
- Friday:** Evergreen Thrift Shop 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Brigit St Brigit *Love in the Title*, 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday:** Evergreen Thrift Shop 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Brigit St Brigit *Love in the Title*, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, February 27

Worship: 10:30 a.m. on Facebook Live, YouTube, or in person. Masks required. "Your Power" is our theme.

Adult Education: EMERGE with us in the Upper Room, Sunday from 9a-10:15.

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

Siena Francis February Drive

Here are CRITICAL items we will try to collect for Siena Francis this month:

Hairbrushes & Combs

Deoderant (Mens & Womens)

Razors

Laundry Detergent PODS

Tissues (e.g., Kleenex)

Adult Underwear (Depends)- Sizes S, M, and L

Other personal hygiene items Siena Francis can always use are:

Toilet Paper

Bath Soap

Cough Drops

Lip Balm

Antibiotic Ointment

Acetaminophen

Ibuprofen