



# First Central Congregational

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

## Epiphany Theme: Arise, Shine!

February 27, 2022

Transfiguration Sunday

### Prelude

Fugue in C

*J.S. Bach*

*Please respect those who wish to sit in silence.*

### 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

Mark Winn

We are drawn together in worship this morning by:

The holy mystery we call God,

The sacred calling we hear in the life of Jesus,

The hope we feel when we gather in the Spirit.

**May our experience of the Divine transform our doubts and fears  
and prepare us to love the world.**

### \*Processional Hymn

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

*Black Hymnal, No. 1*

ST. DENIO

## 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 11.11.11.11.  
 Adapt. from a Welsh ballad in John Roberts'  
 Caniadaeth y Cysseir 1830

## **\*Invocation**

O God, you are beyond words and description. Your love is beyond knowledge and explanation. Prepare our hearts to receive you. Change us, so that our lives may reflect your glory. We rejoice in your wisdom. 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**

Zechariah 8:1-8, pew Bible pages 831-832

### **Psalter**

Psalm 95:1-7

Come, let us sing joyfully to the ROCK WHO BIRTHED US;  
**let us shout to the rock of our salvation!**  
Let us come into her presence with thanksgiving;  
**with songs of praise let us shout to her!**  
For the EVER-LIVING GOD is a great God,  
**and a great Majesty above all gods.**  
For in her hand are the depths of the earth;  
**the heights of the mountains are hers also.**  
For hers is the sea, for she made it,  
**and the dry land, which her hands have crafted.**  
Come, let us worship and bow down,  
**let us kneel before the AGELESS GOD, our Maker!**  
For she is our God,  
and we are the people of her pasture,  
and the sheep of her hand.  
**If only you would listen to her voice today!**

### **Anthem**

Shine On Us

### **Scripture Lessons**

I Corinthians 2:1-13; Luke 7:24-35, pew Bible pages 156, 62

### **Sermon**

Your Wisdom

Rev. Katie Miller

### **\*Hymn**

The Care the Eagle Gives Her Young

*Black Hymnal, No. 468*

CRIMOND

# The Care the Eagle Gives Her Young

468

R. Deane Postlethwaite, 1980

Deut. 32:11-12a; Exod. 19:4

1 The care the ea - gle gives her young, safe in her  
2 As when the time to ven - ture comes, she stirs them  
3 And if we flut - ter help - less - ly, as fledg - ling

loft - y nest, Is like the ten - der  
out to flight, So we are pressed to  
ea - gles fall, Be - neath us lift God's

love of God for us made man - i - fest.  
bold - ly try, to strive for dar - ing height.  
might - y wings to bear us, one and all.

The musical score consists of three systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The key signature is one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are arranged in three systems, with the first system containing three numbered lines of text. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

*This text was originally titled "For a Recognition of God's Feminine Attributes." The author explains: "I find a deep meaning and power in the image of a God who, like a mother eagle, pushes me from her nest, but who catches me, bears me up, when I fall."*

Tune: CRIMOND C.M.  
Jesse Seymour Irvine, 1872  
Harm. T. C. L. Pritchard, 1929

## **\*Confession**

O God of Becoming, we claim ourselves as your beloved, and name the messy reality of being human. In your presence, we do not shy away from our struggles, failings, or regrets. By your invitation, we come to you not in shame, but with courage, seeking right relationship--with you, with ourselves, with each other, and with all of creation. Guide us in your ways of accountability, with remedies of repair and reconciliation. Help us to believe change is possible, in ourselves and others, so our healing can ripple outwards and our shared wisdom can break forth anew. Amen.

## **\*Assurance**

Whether we hear a voice from the heavens or a still small voice in our hearts, listen carefully for the Spirit of God. Believe and accept God's forgiving love and live in freedom.

## **Prayers**

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Our Mother 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.

## **Neighbors in Need**

George Himes

## **Offertory**

We Shall Overcome

Jazz Band, arranged by Kelly Beaman

## **\*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**

The needs of our world are too numerous to name. Our tithes and offerings only touch these needs, but the biggest gift we can give is to love the world. So, bless all that we give. And may our gifts be only a beginning, as we show forth your glory and wisdom to the world. Amen.

## **\*Recessional Hymn**

O Grant Us Light

*Black Hymnal*, No. 469

HESPERUS L.M.

NUKIUKU

469

# O Grant Us Light

Ps. 43:3

Lawrence Tuttielt, 1864; alt.

1 O grant us light, that we may know wis-dom that you a -  
2 O grant us light that we may find where er - ror lurks in  
3 O grant us light, that we may learn how dead is life from  
4 O grant us light, when soon or late, all earth-ly scenes shall

lone can give, That truth may guide us as we go,  
hu - man lore, And turn to you our seek - ing minds,  
you a - part, How sure is joy for all who turn  
pass a - way, In you to find the o - pen gate,

and vir - tue bless the lives we live.  
and love your ho - ly Word the more.  
to you an un - di - vid - ed heart.  
to death - less home and end - less day.

## **\*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**

Grand Chorus

*Guilmant*

### **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 27, 2022

**Prayers:** We pray for *Jennifer Williams* and family, on the death of her mother.

**Joys:** We congratulate *Barl & Al Dietrich* and family on the birth of their great-great grandson, *Baxton Lee Nielson*, born February 13, 2022!

**Happy Birthday this week:** *Scott Jones, Curt McConnell, Susan O'Donnell, Hanna Solberg, Marcy Wanzenried, George Himes, Kelly Little, Nitharee Chap,* and *Scott Girvan.*

**To Be More Task Force:** Join the To Be More Task Force following worship in the parlor for a gym renovation brainstorming session. 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](mailto:j.b.lowndes12@gmail.com).

**Coffee Hour:** Coffee hour returns today! Join us in the parlor following worship for coffee and conversation.

**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 27-March 5

*Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16; Romans 10:8b-13; Luke 4:1-13*

- Monday:** Staff Meeting, Pastor's Study, 1:30
- Wednesday:** Evergreen Thrift Shop 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
Ash Wednesday, 6:15  
Sanctuary Choir, 7 p.m.
- Thursday:** Evergreen Thrift Shop 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
Mind Matters, 7 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, March 6

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

**Food Pantry:** Donations will be accepted at church. Checks may be given to First Central with "pantry" in the memo line. Frozen meats are now being accepted (and are needed).

*The church calendar is also available at [www.firstcentral.org](http://www.firstcentral.org)  
Like us on **Facebook**. Follow us on **Twitter**. Watch us on **YouTube**.*