



**First Central
Congregational**
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Easter Season Theme: Time for Everything

May 15, 2022

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Prelude

Chanson

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

Steve Jackson

We gather in the presence of the One who breathes life into all of Creation.

We sing God’s praises, breathing in God’s glory.

All are welcome in the presence of the Most High.

We come, seeking the goodness in God’s hands.

We gather as God’s beloved people, leaving no one outside.

Together we reflect the fullness of God’s love.

Together we bring God’s love into the world.

Let us worship the Living God whose breath gives us life.

***Processional Hymn** Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer *Black Hymnal*, No. 18

CWM RHONDDA

Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer

Exod. 13:21; 16:4; 17:6; Ps. 105:39-44; Rev. 22:1-2

William Williams, 1745

St. 1, transl. Peter Williams, 1771; alt.

St. 2-3, transl. William Williams, 1772; alt.

1 Guide me, O my great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, where the heal - ing
 3 When I reach the Riv - er Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land; I am weak, but you are might - y;
 wa - ters flow. Let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar
 fears sub - side. Death of death, and hell's de - struc - tion,

hold me with your power - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
 lead me all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - erer, strong de - liv - erer,
 land me safe on heav - en's side. Songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es

feed me till I want no more, feed me till I want no more.
 ev - er be my strength and shield, ev - er be my strength and shield.
 I will ev - er sing to you, I will ev - er sing to you.

John Hughes, a railroad official by trade, composed this tune
 for the 1907 anniversary of Capel Rhondda, Pontypridd, Wales.
 Cwm Rhondda refers to the "low valley" area surrounding the

Tune: CWM RHONDDA 8.7.8.7.8.7.7.

John Hughes, 1907

Alternate setting: ZION

***Invocation**

O God, who has created each of us in your image and made us one body, create in and among us a holy place. We are each holy vessels of your presence to one another. Give us hearts open to human vulnerability. Help us to listen to each other with patient and thoughtful attention and support. May we perceive the grace of the differences in our embodied experiences. Let us resist what excludes and diminishes. Together we will dismantle what prevents our flourishing in love and justice. 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

Rev. Katie Miller

Graduate Recognition

Anthem

Be Thou My Vision

Epistle Lesson

2 Corinthians 5:17-20

Pew Bible, page 170

For the Word of God in scripture,
For the Word of God among us,
For the Word of God within us,
Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Transformation

Rev. Dr. Scott Jones

***Hymn**

Jesus Calls Us, o'er the Tumult

Black Hymnal, No. 172

GALILEE

Jesus Calls Us, o'er the Tumult

172

Cecil F. Alexander, 1852; alt.

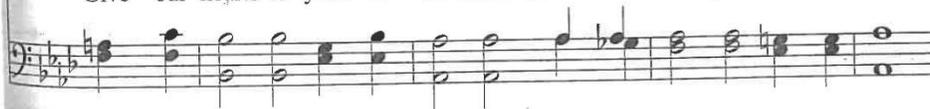
Matt. 4:18-22; Mark 1:16-20; John 21:15



1 Je-sus calls us, o'er the tu - mult of our life's wild, rest-less sea;
2 As of old, Saint An-drew heard it by the Gal - i - le - an lake,
3 Je-sus calls us from the wor-ship of the trea - sures we a - dore,
4 In our joys and in our sor - rows, days of toil and hours of ease,
5 Je-sus calls us! By your mer - cies, Sav - ior, may we hear your call,



Day by day that voice still calls us, say - ing, "Chris - tian, fol - low me."
Turned from home and toil and kin - dred, leav - ing all for Je - sus' sake.
From each i - dol that would keep us, say - ing, "Chris - tian, love me more."
Je - sus calls, in cares and plea - sures, "Chris - tian, love me more than these."
Give our hearts to your o - be - dience, serve and love you best of all.



Cecil Alexander, who in Ireland wrote sacred verse to teach children the meaning of the catechism and liturgy, dedicated

Tune: GALILEE 8.7.8.7.
William H. Johnson, 1907

***Confession**

Jeannie Bates

We confess both our subconscious and willful othering that provides us false protection from our own inner battles. You said that if we confess, you will draw us close and wrap us in your forgiveness that provides both truth and love. We come before you with humble hearts and contrite spirits asking for your pardon. Continue to grant us the invaluable gifts of knowing one another. Into your care, we commit our collective weakness, assured by your supporting strength and love. Amen.

***Assurance**

Hear the Good News: No fear, no chaos, no hopelessness is beyond the reach of the One whose breath gives us life. Through Christ, God sees only our wholeness. Through Christ, forgiveness, love, and new life are always possible. Come, Holy Spirit, come. Make all things new. Amen.

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

Poeme

***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**

May these gifts help to build the community of care and compassion that we hope to create. May they be a legacy of justice, hope, faith and most importantly love. Amen.

***Recessional Hymn**

O Day of God, Draw Near

Black Hymnal, No. 611

ST MICHAEL

O Day of God, Draw Near

611

R. B. Y. Scott, 1937; alt.

Ps. 105:7; 2 Pet. 3:8-15

1 O Day of God, draw near in beau - ty and in power,
2 Bring to our trou - bled minds, un - cer - tain and a - fraid,
3 Bring jus - tice to our land, that all may dwell se - cure,
4 Bring to our world of strife your sov - ereign word of peace,
5 O Day of God, draw near as at cre - a - tion's birth;

Come with your time-less judg - ment now to match our pres - ent hour.
The qui - et of a stead-fast faith, calm of a call o - beyed.
And fine - ly build for days to come foun - da - tions that en - dure.
That war may haunt the earth no more and des - o - la - tion cease.
Let there be light a - gain, and let your reign be - gin on earth.

R. B. Y. Scott was a theologian, Old Testament scholar, and

Tune: ST. MICHAEL S.M.

*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

Cortege

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

May 15, 2022

Prayers: We pray for *Martin Richards*, recently hospitalized. We pray for *Rick Richards*, recovering from surgery.

Happy Birthday this week: *Barb Dietrich, Krissy Straka, Martin Richards, Chris Andersen, Karen Wheeler, Steve Jackson, and Greg Higginbotham.*

Fair Trade Coffee: Thank you to *Sara and Dave Sharpe* for sponsoring Fair Trade Coffee for the month of May!

Chancel Flowers and Decorations: Flowers and decorations are sponsored this month by *Phil and Sherry Smith.*

Eve's Wine Tasting: Join us for our next Eves gathering tomorrow, Monday, May 16! We will be exploring the wines of the Bourgogne region. This tends to be a popular event, so **please RSVP by today, Sunday May 15 to Susan Fortina (text 402-709-8143).** We want to make sure we have enough wine and wine glasses for you! The cost is \$15, you can pay at the time of event. We will meet at Janet Kuehl's house at 9706 Nottingham Drive at 7 p.m. You're invited to bring a snack or extra bottle of wine to share if you'd like. Hope to see you there!

Congregational Outreach: The Congregational Outreach ministry will meet today following worship in the Fireside Room.

Women's Fellowship Brunch: Women's Fellowship will meet in the parlor at 10am on Saturday, May 21. A brunch will be provided. All women of the church are welcome to attend. Call Val Himes at 402-578-7230 to RSVP and let her know if you need a ride.

CEO's: CEO's will meet at Farmer Brown's Café in Waterloo, Thursday, May 26, at 5:30pm. Ride sharing recommended!

Memorial Day Flowers: We invite church members to bring flowers of their choice on Sunday, May 29th to decorate the chancel in honor of fallen family and friends. Please place flowers on the chancel before worship on the 29th. A volunteer will be available before worship to assist and take the names of the fallen for our pastoral prayers portion of worship.

Activities for the Coming Week

May 15-21

Lectionary Readings: Acts 16:9-15, Psalm 67, Revelations 21:10 & 22:5, John 14:23-29

- Monday:** Staff Meeting, 1:30 p.m.
Eve's @ Janet Kuehl's, 7 p.m.
- Wednesday:** Evergreen Thrift Shop, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Family Night, 5:30 p.m.
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.
- Saturday:** Women's Fellowship Brunch, 10 a.m.
Evergreen Thrift Shop 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Sunday, May 22

Adult Faith Forum: Join us for Week 4 of Spiritual Formation to live the With-God Life (the Immanuel Principle) as we consider how the *study* of God's word and way, the *meditation* on "God, his word, and his world," may lead us to living a God-guided life with God and one another. Enter into the amazing life of "Guidance: Experiencing an interactive friendship with God that gives direction and purpose to daily life." See you in the Upper Room/Old Parlor around 9a for conversation worth getting up for!

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

*The church calendar is also available at www.firstcentral.org
Like us on **Facebook**. Follow us on **Twitter**. Watch us on **YouTube**.
Want to donate electronically? Please scan the QR code.*

