

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Sunday, August 19, 2018

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship based on Psalm 92

Leader: Come and give thanks to our God.

Sing praises to God's holy name.

**People: With songs in our hearts,
we declare God's steadfast love in the
morning and faithfulness at night.**

Leader: How magnificent the works of God.

People: Let us sing our praises of joy!

Hymn 16 LYONS

O Worship the King, All Glorious Above

**O worship the King, all glorious above, O gratefully
sing God's power, truth and love; our Shield and De-
fender, the Ancient of Days, pavilioned in splendor,
and girded with praise.**

O tell of God's might, O sing of God's grace, whose
robe is the light, whose canopy space; whose chariots
so swift the deep thunderclouds form, who guides us
in light through the winds of the storm.

The earth with its store of wonders untold, Almighty,
thy power hath founded of old, established to last by
a changeless decree, and round it hath cast, like a
mantle, the sea.

Thy bountiful care, what tongue can recite? It
breathes in the air, it shines in the light; it streams
from the hills, it descends to the plain, and sweetly
distills in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail, in thee do we
trust, nor find thee to fail; thy mercies how tender, how
firm to the end, our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and
Friend!

Prayer of Confession (*unison*) B. Merrill Neel

There are times, O God, when our greatest sin is not
what we do but what we fail to do. For those times
when we have not spoken up; for those times when
we have not acted; for those times when we have not
responded: forgive us. Give us courage to name
what is wrong when we see it. Give us confidence to
do what is hard. Give us grace to reach out when
that is frightening or uncomfortable. This we pray
in Jesus' name...(*moments for silent reflections*)

Words of Assurance

Anthem Frank Loesser

Sit Down, You're Rockin' the Boat

from *Guys and Dolls*

Children's Message and Lord's Prayer

Dee Buchanan
Caitlyn Menolasino

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.
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil,
for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glo-
ry forever. Amen.

Hymn 256 Kum ba Yah DESMOND

Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah! Kum ba yah, my
Lord, kum ba yah! Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah!
O Lord, kum ba yah!

Someone's crying, Lord, kum ba yah! Someone's cry-
ing, Lord, kum ba yah! Someone's crying, Lord, kum
ba yah! O Lord, kum ba yah!

Someone's singing, Lord, kum ba yah! Someone's
singing, Lord, kum ba yah! Someone's singing, Lord,
kum ba yah! O Lord, kum ba yah!

Someone's praying, Lord, kum ba yah! Someone's
praying, Lord, kum ba yah! Someone's praying,
Lord, kum ba yah! O Lord, kum ba yah!

Pastoral Prayer

Offertory Jason Robert Brown

Christmas Lullaby
from *Songs for a New World*

Doxology OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts.
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

Scripture Lesson Ruth 1:1-18

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Peter Wiley

Hymn 525 FOREST GREEN

All Beautiful the March of Days

All beautiful the march of days, as seasons come and
go; the hand that shaped the rose has formed the crys-
tal of the snow, has sent the silvery frost of heav'n

the flowing waters sealed, and laid a silent loveliness
on hill and wood and field.

O'er white expanses sparking pure the radiant morns un-
fold; the solemn splendors of the night burn brightly
through the cold. Life mounts in every pulsing vein, love
deepens 'round the hearth, and clearer sounds the angel
hymn, "good will to all on earth."

O God, from whose unfathomed law the year in beauty
flows, yourself the splendid vision seen in crystal and in
rose, the passing days with grace declare, and passing
nights proclaim, in everchanging words of light, the won-
der of your name.

Benediction

Passing of the Peace

Postlude