

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**  
**Sunday, October 28, 2018**

**Prelude** J. S. Bach  
Toccatina and Fugue in D Minor, BWV 565

**Welcome**

**Introit** *Jubilate Deo* M. Praetorius  
*Women's Ensemble*

**Call to Worship** adapted from Psalm 19

Leader: The heavens are telling of the glory of God,  
**People: and the firmament proclaims God's handiwork.**

Leader: Your law, O God, is perfect, reviving our souls,

**People: and your commandments are sure, rejoicing our hearts.**

Leader: Let our words and worship,  
the meditation of our hearts, be acceptable to you,

**People: O God, our rock and our redeemer!**

**Hymn 51** LASST UNS ERFREUEN  
All Creatures of Our God, Now Sing

**All creatures of our God, now sing; lift up your voices, let them ring, Alleluia, Alleluia! O burning sun with golden beam, O silver moon with softer gleam, O sing praises, O sing praises, Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**O rushing wind with voice so strong, O clouds that sail in heaven along, sing your praises, Alleluia! O rising morn, in praise rejoice, O lights of evening,**

**find a voice, O sing praises, O sing praises, Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**O flowing water, pure and clear, make music for your God to hear, Alleluia, Alleluia! O fire so masterful and bright, that gives to all both warmth and light, O sing praises, O sing praises, Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Now we who are of tender heart, forgiving others, take our part singing praises, Alleluia! To God we lift our pain and care, the burdened sorrows that we bear, O sing praises, O sing praises, Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Let all things their creator bless, and worship God in humbleness, Alleluia, Alleluia! O praise the One who gives us birth, redeeming, giving life its worth, O sing praises, O sing praises, Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Prayer of Confession** (*unison*)

**God of Mercy, we try to stop, but we fail. Our foolish pride and limited thinking causes us to stumble. We make careless mistakes that hurt others. We miss opportunities to speak words of peace and encouragement, instead choosing to criticize and judge what we see others doing. Forgive us, Gracious One, and set within us once again your Good News. Surround us with your grace and peace, we pray...**

*(moments for silent reflections)*

**Words of Assurance**

**Anthem** *Piè Jesu* M. L. Lightfoot  
*Merciful Lord Jesus, grant them rest.*  
*Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world, grant them everlasting rest.*

**Children's Message and Lord's Prayer**

Katie Morgan

**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 glory forever. Amen.**

**Sacrament of Baptism (10:30)** Jack David Postler

**Congregational Response: With joy we welcome you into this church. Your baptism is not the end but the beginning of a journey of discovering just how much God loves you. This is our blessing to you: "Grow in grace and wisdom and do not fear, for the Lord is with you. Do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with your God."**

**Hymn 376**

BECK

Help Us Accept Each Other

**Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us; teach us as sister, brother, each person to embrace. Be present, Lord, among us and bring us to believe we are ourselves accepted and meant to love and live.**

**Teach us, O Lord, your lessons, as in our daily life we struggle to be human and search for hope and faith. Teach us to care for people, for all, not just for some, to love them as we find them or as they may become.**

**Let your acceptance change us, so that we may be moved in living situations to do the truth in love; to practice your acceptance, until we know by heart the table of forgiveness and laughter's healing art.**

Lord, for today's encounters with all who are in need, who hunger for acceptance, for righteousness and bread, we need new eyes for seeing, new hands for holding on; renew us with your Spirit; Lord, free us, make us one!

#### Pastoral Prayer

Offertory adapted by A. Copland,  
arr. R. Wilding-White  
At the River

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 Mark 9:38-50  
Leader: This is the Word of the Lord  
People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Jeanette Brodersen

Hymn 502 LEONI  
Community of Christ

Community of Christ, who make the cross your own, live out your creed and risk your life for God alone: the God who wears your face, to whom all worlds belong, whose children are of every race and every song.

Community of Christ, look past the church's door and see the homeless, see the hungry, and the poor. Take hands with the oppressed, the jobless in your

street, take towel and water, that you wash your neighbor's feet.

Community of Christ, through whom the word must sound cry out for justice and for peace the whole world round: disarm the powers that war and all that can destroy, turn bombs to bread, and tears of anguish into joy.

When menace melts away, so shall God's will be done, the climate of the world be peace and Christ its Sun; our currency be love and kindness our law, our food and faith be shared as one for evermore.

#### Benediction

#### Passing of the Peace

Postlude J. S. Bach  
Fugue in G Minor, BWV 578