

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
Sunday, June 30, 2019

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship based on Psalm 16

One: Come, bless the Holy One who guides us,
whose wise teaching directs our days
and focuses our minds at night;
whose presence sustains us
and surrounds us here.

All: We bless God who is present among us.
We will not be shaken or live in fear,
but will sing God's praise
and worship with joy!

Hymn 12 ST. DENIO

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from our eyes, most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unchanging and silent as light, nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might; thy justice like mountains high soaring above thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all, life thou givest, to both great and small; in all life thou livest, the true life of all; we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree, and wither and perish, but naught changeth thee.

Thou reignest in glory, thou dwellest in light, thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight; all praise we would render; O help us to see 'tis only the splendor

of light hideth thee.

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

adapted from N. C. Townley

Merciful God, you know of the needs in this world and the capability that we have of meeting those needs and bringing words of hope and healing through actions of compassion and justice. Yet we are hesitant in our commitment to you. We want good things to happen. We just aren't sure that we are up to the tasks you set before us. Forgive us when we so easily doubt your call, your presence, and your abiding love. Lift us up from lives of distraction and self-centeredness. Heal us and restore us. Hear us pray ...

(*moments for silent reflections*)

Words of Assurance

Anthem G. F. Handel

For Behold, Darkness Shall Cover the Earth
from *The Messiah*

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) Micah Daniel Carr

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 417

MICHAEL

All My Hope on God Is Founded

All my hope on God is founded, who does all my trust renew. Safe through change and chance God guides me, only good and only true. God unknown, One alone seeks to claim my heart as home.

Day by day the almighty giver bounteous gifts on us bestows; with delight our souls are nourished, pleasure leads us where we go. Love does stand at God's hand; joy awaits each new commend.

Still from earth to God eternal hymns of grateful praise be sung, high above all praises praising for the gift of Christ the Son. Hear Christ's call one and all; those who follow shall not fall.

Pastoral Prayer

Offertory G. F. Handel

The People that Walked in Darkness
from *The Messiah*

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 Luke 9:57-62

⁵⁷As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." ⁵⁸And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the

Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.”⁵⁹To another he said, “Follow me.” But he said, “Lord, first let me go and bury my father.”⁶⁰But Jesus said to him, “Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God.”⁶¹Another said, “I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home.”⁶²Jesus said to him, “No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.”

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Peter Wiley

Hymn 260

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

O Splendor of God’s Glory Bright

O Splendor of God’s glory bright, O thou that bringest light from light, O Light of light, light’s living spring, O Day, all days illumining.

O thou true Sun, on us thy glance let fall in royal radiance; the Spirit’s sanctifying beam upon our earthly senses stream.

The God of life, our prayers implore, the God of glory evermore, the God of goodness, grace and might, to banish sin from our delight.

To guide what-e’er we nobly do, with love all envy to subdue; to make ill-fortune turn to fair, and give us grace our wrongs to bear.

Benediction

Passing of the Peace

Postlude