

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
Sunday, October 27, 2019

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

Welcome

Introit arr. W. Appling
We Shall Walk Through the Valley

Call to Worship B. M. Neel

One: We gather as God's beloved children—

All: However glad we are, however out of sorts we are.

One: We come together as a people whom Jesus calls into community —

All: So this becomes a place where all are welcome.

One: We have come to give thanks, to pray and sing, to be with one another —

All: Let us worship God.

Hymn 39 AZMON

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise, the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of God's grace!

My gracious Savior and my God, assist me to proclaim, to spread through all the earth abroad the honors of your name.

Jesus! The name that calms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease, is music in the sinner's ears, is life, and health, and peace!

Glory to God, and praise and love be ever, ever given by saints below and saints above, the church in earth and heaven.

Prayer of Confession (*unison*) A. James

Merciful God, all that we have and all that we are come from you; yet we prefer to focus on what we have done to justify ourselves. We count all that we have done to earn your love rather than confess our need for your grace and mercy. We point out the shortcomings of others rather than examine our own waywardness. Forgive us, Gracious One. Open our eyes to our need for your indiscriminate and unconditional love. Free us from our need to justify ourselves in your sight, and guide us as we welcome the fullness of your life in Jesus Christ. Hear our prayers... (*moments for silent reflections*)

Words of Assurance

Anthem Irish Blessing J. Moore

Children's Message and Lord's Prayer Dee Buchanan
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.

Hymn 443 SEEK YE FIRST

Seek Ye First

Alleluia, Seek ye first the kingdom of God and God's righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia!

Alleluia, Ask, and it shall be given unto you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and the door shall be opened unto you. Allelu, alleluia!

Pastoral Prayer

Offertory T. Thomson

Healing Waters
Emily Updegraff - soprano

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 18:9-14

⁹He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: ¹⁰"Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. ¹²I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.' ¹³But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' ¹⁴I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted."

Sermon Peter Wiley

Reception of New Members

Covenant of First Congregational: **In the presence of God and these witnesses, I give myself unre-**

servedly to God's service, and take this to be my Church. Ever mindful of the welfare of my fellow members, I promise to walk with them in faithfulness and Christian love. And I promise that so far as able, I will attend the services of this Church, observe its sacraments, share in its work, support and benevolence, and endeavor to make it a fruitful body of Christians.

Hymn 54

DIX

For the Beauty of the Earth

For the beauty of the earth, for the splendor of the skies, for the love which from our birth over and around us lies, Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the beauty of each hour of the day and of the night, hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light, Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight, for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight, Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child, friends on earth, and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild, Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For each perfect gift of thine unto us so feely given, graces, human and divine, flowers of earth and buds of heaven, Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

Benediction

Choral Benediction

P. Lutkin

The Lord Bless You and Keep You

Passing of the Peace

Postlude

J. S. Bach

Fugue in G Minor, BWV 578

Memorial Choir

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