

The Season of Proper
Sunday, September 3, 2023

Welcoming

Mission & Service Birthday/Anniversary Recognition

Happy birthday to you,
to Jesus be true,
May God's gracious blessings
rest always with you.

Announcements

Centring Music: Lord, I want to be a Christian
Traditional Spiritual, arr. b Brian Glyncannon

Lighting of the Christ Candle

We come to worship and to follow Christ,
who calls us to a new understanding of community.
We come to worship with open hearts and minds,
and with souls seeking justice and equality.
We light the Christ candle to bring the Spirit in.
Let us worship in love and understanding.

Opening Hymn: **Creator God You Gave Us Life** (MV 27)

(Please stand as you are able.)

Words and Music: Judith Snowdon, 2004

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- 1 Creator God you gave us life,
your image formed within our souls,
yet through the mist of time and space,
we search for that which makes us whole.

Refrain Through hands that paint majestic skies,
and voices chanting melody,
with words that reach beyond the page,
we comprehend your mystery.

- 2 In ev'ry flow'r and ev'ry tree,
we see your great diversity,
yet greater still we see your love,
expressed in our humanity. *Refrain*

- 3 When with our hearts, our hands our minds,
we share gifts with all the world,
our spirits soar beyond the veil,
to touch the very face of God. *Refrain*

Opening Prayer

Loving God, open us to the many ways of your love and compassion. Like water flowing from the rock, may your Holy spirit flow over us. Help us to join our hearts together as your congregation, in sharing in this service of worship and receiving your word. Amen.

A Time to Wonder

Scripture Reading

John 1:29-42

Choral Response: **Ancient Words**

(Please remain seated.)

Words and Music: Lynn Deshazo

CCLI Song # 2986399

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Words of life words of hope
Give us strength help us cope
In this world where'er we roam
Ancient words will guide us home

Ancient words ever true
Changing me changing you
We have come with open hearts
O let the ancient words impart

Reflection: "You Say Simon, I Say Peter"

Hymn of the Day: I Have Called You by Your Name

(More Voices 161)

(Please stand as you are able.)

Words and music: Daniel Charles Damon, 1995

Words and Music © 1995 Hope Publishing Company.

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- 1 I have called you by your name,
you are mine;
I have gifted you
and ask you now to shine.
I will not abandon you;
all my promises are true.
You are gifted, called, and chosen;
you are mine.
- 2 I will help you learn my name
as you go;
read it written in my people,
help them grow.
Pour the water in my name,
speak the word your soul can claim,
offer Jesus' body
given long ago.
- 3 I know you will need my touch
as you go;
feel it pulsing in creation's
ebb and flow.
Like the woman reaching out,
choosing faith in spite of doubt,
hold the hem of Jesus' robe,
then let it go.

- 4 I have given you a name,
it is mine;
I have given you my Spirit
as a sign.
With my wonder in your soul,
make my wounded children whole;
go and tell my precious people
they are mine.

Invitation to Offering

We are called to play our part in building up the foundations of love and service. By our giving, we strengthen our commitment to be the people of God. Our offering will now be received.

Choral Response: For All Your Goodness, God

(Voices United 549)

(Please stand as you are able.)

Words: trad. American

Music: trad. German; arr. Darryl Nixon 1987, alt.

Arrangement © 1987 Songs for a Gospel People.

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For all your goodness, God,
we give you thanks.
Thanks for the food we eat,
and for the friends we meet;
for each new day we greet,
we give you thanks.

Offering Prayer

Gracious God, you give us every good thing we need. Our of all that we have received, we return to a portion of our blessings. With these gifts, we commit ourselves to the way of love. Amen.

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayers

The Lord's Prayer

Parting Hymn: **Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah** (VU 651)

(Please stand as you are able.)

Words: Welsh, William Williams 1745;

English trans. Peter Williams and William Williams 1771.

Music: John Hughes 1905.

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- 1 Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but thou art mighty,
hold me with thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me till I want no more.
feed me till I want no more.

- 2 Open now the crystal fountain,
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield
be though still my strength and shield.

- 3 When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side:
songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever give to thee
I will ever give to thee.

Benediction

Postlude: Prelude in G Major

J. S. Bach

Worship Leadership – Pastor Beth Parsons
Music Leadership – Sharon Prindle-Collins
Welcoming – Stephen Godfrey
A Time to Wonder – Pastor Beth Parsons
Readers – Peggy Dayton & Elizabeth Surerus
Spirit Kids Program – Leslie Moffat
Technical Support – Louise Johnston & Ron Norman
Fellowship Time – Andy and the Queens of Caffeine