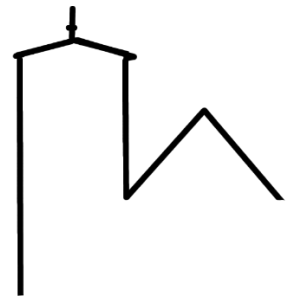


# WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1420 West Moss Avenue  
Peoria, Illinois 61606



## THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

7 February 2021

Ten O'clock

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**FAITHFUL GOD**, you have appointed us your witnesses, to be light that shines in the world. Let us not hide the bright hope you have given us, but tell everyone your love, revealed in Jesus Christ the Lord, who lives with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

*from: Book of Common Worship, Presbyterian Church (USA)*

## GATHERING IN THE PRESENCE OF THE RISEN CHRIST

**THE PREPARATION**

**Two Studies on English Folk Songs**

*Ralph Vaughan Williams*

**WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH FAMILY**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

**Rev. Denise Clark-Jones**

**One:** *Christ our Lord united his followers together in Christian love.*

**All:** **His presence makes our fellowship a happy experience.**

**One:** *When Christ is our life, our fellowship takes on the nature of Christ, we experience unity, love and humility toward one another.*

**All:** **May Christ live in us, that we may be like him.**

**\*THE HYMN**

**All My Hope On God Is Founded**

*Michael*

**1. All my hope on God is founded;  
he doth still my trust renew,  
me through change and chance he guideth,  
only good and only true.  
God unknown,  
he alone  
calls my heart to be his own.**

**3. Daily doth the almighty Giver  
bounteous gifts on us bestow;  
his desire our soul delighteth,  
pleasure leads us where we go.  
Love doth stand  
at his hand;  
joy doth wait on his command.**

**2. God's great goodness aye endureth  
Deep his wisdom, passing thought,  
Splendor, light and life attend him  
Beauty springeth out of naught  
Evermore,  
From his store,  
Newborn worlds rise and adore.**

**4. Still from man to God eternal  
Sacrifice of praise be done,  
High above all praises praising  
For the gift of Christ, his Son.  
Christ doth call  
One and all;  
Ye who follow shall not fall.**

## **\*CALL TO CONFESSION**

### **\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*praying together*)

**MOST MERCIFUL GOD, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways to the glory of your name.**

## **\*TIME OF SILENCE AND PERSONAL CONFESSION**

### **\*KYRIE** (*sung by the Choir*)

*George Oldroyd, 1938*

Lord have mercy upon us; Christ have mercy upon us; Lord have mercy upon us.

## **\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

### **\*GLORIA IN EXCELSIS** (*sung by the choir*)

*George Oldroyd, 1938*

Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will towards men. We praise thee, we bless thee we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord, thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

## **HEARING THE WORD**

### **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

### **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

#### **OLD TESTAMENT: Isaiah 40:21-31**

**Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? <sup>22</sup> It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in; <sup>23</sup> who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.<sup>24</sup> Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble. <sup>25</sup> To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. <sup>26</sup> Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing.**

<sup>27</sup>Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the Lord, and my right is disregarded by my God"? <sup>28</sup>Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. <sup>29</sup>He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. <sup>30</sup>Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; <sup>31</sup>but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

THE PSALTER

Psalm 147

*St. Anne*

1. Now praise the Lord, all living saints,  
Sing praises that endure;  
Our children God does surely bless,  
Our future is secure.

2. God brings us peace in midst of strife,  
Our boarders to protect.  
All those who trust the Lord for strength  
Need never fear neglect.

3. God's Word runs swiftly o'er the earth,  
The seasons to command.  
Spring, summer, winter, autumn, all  
Display that wondrous hand.

4. Your life-filled Word brings order to  
The chaos of our days.  
In love you claim us as your own;  
What better cause for praise?

5. Instruction, guidance, holy law,  
Some common names are these  
For God's own rule for living life.  
What other word can please?

6. No other people are so graced,  
No nation is so blest,  
As those who know God's living Word  
And this one name confess.

Text: Fred R. Anderson, 1986  
Music: William Croft, 1708

EPISTLE: I Corinthians 9:16-23

If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! <sup>17</sup>For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. <sup>18</sup>What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

<sup>19</sup>For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. <sup>20</sup>To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. <sup>21</sup>To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. <sup>22</sup>To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. <sup>23</sup>I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

## GOSPEL: Mark 1:29-39

As soon as they<sup>[a]</sup> left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. <sup>30</sup> Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. <sup>31</sup> He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them. <sup>32</sup> That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. <sup>33</sup> And the whole city was gathered around the door. <sup>34</sup> And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

<sup>35</sup> In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. <sup>36</sup> And Simon and his companions hunted for him. <sup>37</sup> When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." <sup>38</sup> He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." <sup>39</sup> And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

SERMON

Rev. Denise Clark-Jones

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*confessing together*)

*The Apostles' Creed*

**I BELIEVE IN GOD, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**THE GIFT OF MUSIC**

**Jesus, Lover of My Soul**

*Richard Moreland*

Jesus, lover of my soul, let me to thy bosom fly, while the nearer waters roll, while the tempest still is high. Hide me, O my Savior, hide, till the storm of life is past; safe into the haven guide; O receive my soul at last. Other refuge have I none, hangs my helpless soul on thee, leave, ah! leave me not alone, still support and comfort me. All my trust on thee is stayed, all my help from thee I bring; cover my defenseless head with the shadow of thy wing. Plenteous grace with thee is found, grace to cover all my sin; let the healing streams abound, make and keep me pure within. Thou of life the fountain art, freely let me take of thee; spring thou up within my heart; rise to all eternity.

... *Charles Wesley, 1740*

## SEALING THE WORD

*At the time of the **Distribution of the EUCHARIST**, worshipers are encouraged to use whatever bread and wine are at hand as the food of the Supper. Jesus himself used the left over bread and wine from the Passover Feast to institute the first Eucharist. So we, too, may use those things closest at hand for this celebration. Christians of any age or church affiliation are welcome at Christ's table, where Christ himself is the host.*

### \*HYMN

### My God, Thy Table Now Is Spread

*Rockingham*

1. My God, thy table now is spread,  
Thy cup with love doth overflow;  
Be all thy children thither led,  
And let them thy sweet mercies know.

3. Drawn by thy quickening grace, O Lord,  
In countless numbers let them come,  
And gather from their Father's board  
The bread that lives beyond the tomb.

2. O let thy table honored be,  
And furnished well with joyful guests;  
And may each soul salvation see,  
That here its sacred pledges tastes.

4. Nor let thy spreading Gospel rest,  
Till through the world thy truth has run  
Till with this Bread all souls be blest  
Who see the light or feel the sun.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1755  
Music: Edward Miller, 1790

### INVITATION

**One:** *The Lord be with you.*

**All:** **And also with you.**

**One:** *Lift up your hearts.*

**All:** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**One:** *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

**All:** **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

### COMMUNION PRAYER

### SANCTUS *(sung by the choir)*

*George Oldroyd, 1938*

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY! Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of thy glory; Glory be to thee, O Lord, Most High. Amen.

### COMMUNION PRAYER and MEMORIAL ACCLAMATIONS



Dy-ing you de - stroyed our— death, Ris-ing you re - stored our life,  
Lord Je - sus come a - gain— in— glo - ry!

## THE CONSECRATION

### THE LORD'S PRAYER [*praying together*]

**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; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

*These are holy things, to keep us holy. Gifts of God for the people of God.*

**Let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

## DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

### COMMUNION MUSIC

#### **Strengthen for Service, Lord**

*Leo Nestor*

Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands that holy things have taken; let ears that now have heard thy songs to clamour never waken. Lord, may the tongues which 'Holy' sang keep free from all deceiving; the eyes which saw thy love be bright, thy blessed hope perceiving. The feet that tread thy holy courts from light do thou not banish; the bodies by thy Body fed with thy new life replenish.

*Text from the Syriac Liturgy of Malabar*

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

## BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

### \*HYMN 275

#### **God of Our Life**

*Sandon*

- 1. God of our life, through all the circling years, We trust in thee.  
In all the past, through all our hopes and fears Thy hand we see  
With each new day, when morning lifts the veil,  
We own thy mercies, Lord, which never fail.**
- 2. God of the past, our times are in thy hand, With us abide  
Lead us by faith to hope's true promised land, Be thou our guide.  
With thee to bless, the darkness shines as light  
And faith's fair vision changes into sight.**
- 3. God of the coming years, through paths unknown, We follow thee:  
When we are strong, Lord leave us not alone: Our refuge be.  
Be thou for us in life our daily bread,  
Our heart's true home when all our days are sped.**

**Text: Hugh Thomas Kerr, 1916  
Music: Charles Henry Purday, 1860**

### \*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word. For mine eyes have seen thy salvation Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, and to be the glory of the people Israel. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost, As it was in the beginning, Is now, and ever shalt be, world without end. Amen.

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## LEADING IN WORSHIP TODAY

**The Rev. Denise Clark-Jones, *Pastor***  
**Thomas Clark-Jones, *Organist-Choirmaster***  
**The Quartet of Westminster Church**  
**Melissa Blain, soprano; Kate Kortemeier, alto**  
**J. Douglas McQueen, tenor; David Kortemeier, baritone**  
**Dr. Matthew Winkler, saxophone soloist**  
**Elder Larry Hicks, *Video Producer***

**THE MUSIC FOR TODAY has several unique features. Most noticeable is the fact that the Quartet will be singing a 'choral service' (the Kyrie, Gloria and Sanctus), meaning these responses were specifically composed for choral singing, rather than congregational singing. The Reformed tradition realizes the importance of truly involving the congregation in the liturgy and thus uses as much congregational music as possible. Yet, over the centuries there were literally thousands of 'choral masses' written for the singing of trained choirs. It is a shame not to hear these at least occasionally in a Presbyterian church. This particular choral service was written by the English composer, George Oldroyd (1886-1956) for the new Episcopal Hymnal of 1940. Even from that position of honor, this was rarely heard in U.S. churches, but it is worth hearing, and thus presented this morning. The first anthem is a setting of a familiar Charles Wesley text, "Jesus Lover of My Soul" by the American composer, Richard Moreland. Richard has been the choirmaster at the Swartz Creek Methodist Church in suburban Flint, Michigan since 1972. He has a number of published anthems to his credit as well as orchestrations for much of the United Methodist Hymnal. The Communion anthem is another familiar text, this one set by Dr. Leo Nestor (1948-2019) professor of church and choral music at the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. and also choirmaster of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, also in Washington. He set a high standard for Catholic cathedral music and is held in high esteem among all church musicians. This tender setting of the well-known communion hymn, "Strengthen for service" is among his most lovely efforts.**

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**OPEN HANDS, OPEN HEARTS, OPEN MINDS**



THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

7 FEBRUARY 2021

WESTMINSTER CHURCH OF PEORIA

A Presbyterian Church, USA in the Presbytery of the Great Rivers

**1420 West Moss Avenue + + + Peoria, Illinois 61606**

*[www.westminsterpeoria.org](http://www.westminsterpeoria.org)*