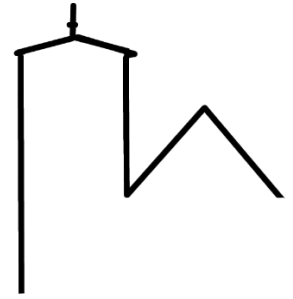


WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1420 West Moss Avenue
Peoria, Illinois 61606



THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

5 February 2023

Ten O'clock

MOST HOLY GOD, the earth is filled with your glory, and in your presence angels stand in awe. Enlarge our vision, that we may recognize your power at work in your Son and join the apostles and prophets as heralds of your saving word. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

from the Book of Common Worship, PC(USA).

GATHERING IN THE PRESENCE OF THE RISEN CHRIST

THE PREPARATION

Improvisation on a Spiritual

Thomas Clark-Jones

WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH FAMILY

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Rev. Clark-Jones

One: *You are the salt of the earth;*

All: **We make the world full of flavor!**

One: *You are the light of the world;*

All: **We will shine our light for all to see!**

One: *For Christ has come to fulfill the law,*

All: **And we follow Jesus Christ, whose light shines in us.**

One: *Come, worship God, follow Jesus,*

All: **And may the Spirit guide us in our daily lives.**

***THE HYMN 486**

My Lord! What a Morning!

African-American Spiritual

Refrain:

My Lord! What a morning;

My Lord, What a morning;

Oh my Lord, What a morning

When the stars begin to fall;

When the stars begin to fall!

1. You will hear the trumpet sound

To wake the nations underground,

Looking to my God's right hand

When the stars begin to fall.

... Refrain

2. You will hear the sinner cry
To wake the nations underground,
Looking to my God's right hand
When the stars begin to fall.

... Refrain

3. You will hear the Christians shout
To wake the nations underground
Looking to my God's right hand
When the stars begin to fall.

... Refrain

Text: African-American Spiritual
Music: Spiritual; arr. Melva W. Costen , 1989

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

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

LORD, you have called us to be the light of the world, but we hide our light under our sinful actions and inactions, words and silence. Forgive us, we pray, and guide us to shine more brightly. Help us to let your light shine through us, so that the world may give glory to you, O God.

***TIME OF SILENCE AND PERSONAL CONFESSION**

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

George Oldroyd in D

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

***GLORIA IN EXCELSIS** (*sung by the Choir*)

George Oldroyd in D

HEARING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 58:1-12

Shout out; do not hold back!

Lift up your voice like a trumpet!
Announce to my people their rebellion,
to the house of Jacob their sins.

²Yet day after day they seek me
and delight to know my ways,
as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;
they ask of me righteous judgments;
they want God on their side.

³"Why do we fast, but you do not see?

Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?"
Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day

and oppress all your workers.
4 You fast only to quarrel and to fight
and to strike with a wicked fist.
Such fasting as you do today
will not make your voice heard on high.
5 Is such the fast that I choose,
a day to humble oneself?
Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?
Will you call this a fast,
a day acceptable to the Lord?
6 Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of injustice,
to undo the straps of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?
7 Is it not to share your bread with the hungry
and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover them
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?
8 Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up quickly;
your vindicator^[b] shall go before you;
the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.
9 Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer;
you shall cry for help, and he will say, "Here I am."

If you remove the yoke from among you,
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,
10 if you offer your food to the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
then your light shall rise in the darkness
and your gloom be like the noonday.
11 The Lord will guide you continually
and satisfy your needs in parched places
and make your bones strong,
and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water
whose waters never fail.
12 Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,
the restorer of streets to live in.

... *The Word of the Lord.* ... Thanks be to God.

1. Hallelujah! Happy are they
Whose joy is God's command;
Their children will be always blessed
And mighty in the land.

2. Riches and wealth will bless their house,
Their justice will endure,
And they are merciful. Light shines
In darkness for the pure.

3. In justice do they rule their lives
And freely do they lend;
Unshaken they, their memory
Is treasured without end.

4. The righteous spread their gifts abroad,
Give freely to the poor;
With honor will their heads be raised;
Their justice will endure.

Text: *A New Metrical Psalter*, Christopher L. Webber

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Music: *Este's Psalmes*, 1592

EPISTLE: I Corinthians 2:1-16

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the testimony^[a] of God to you with superior speech or wisdom. ²For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. ³And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. ⁴My speech and my proclamation were made not with persuasive words of wisdom^[b] but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

⁶Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are being destroyed. ⁷But we speak God's wisdom, a hidden mystery, which God decreed before the ages for our glory ⁸and which none of the rulers of this age understood, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹But, as it is written,

"What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor the human heart conceived,
what God has prepared for those who love him" –

¹⁰God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹For what human knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. ¹²Now we have received not the spirit of the world but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. ¹³And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.^[c] ¹⁴Those who are unspiritual^[d] do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. ¹⁵Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny.

¹⁶"For who has known the mind of the Lord
so as to instruct him?"

But we have the mind of Christ.

GOSPEL: Matthew 5:13-20

You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

¹⁴“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵ People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

¹⁷“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸ For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰ For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

... *The Word of the Lord.* ... Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Denise M. Clark-Jones

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN 513

Let Us Break Bread Together

Let Us Break Bread

1. Let us break bread together on our knees (on our knees)
Let us break bread together on our knees (on our knees)

Refrain: When I fall on my knees With my face to the rising sun;
O Lord have mercy on me (on me).

2. Let us drink wine together on our knees (on our knees)
Let us drink wine together on our knees (on our knees)

Refrain ...

3. Let us praise God together on our knees (on our knees)
Let us praise God together on our knees (on our knees)

Refrain ...

Text: African American Spiritual
Music: Spiritual, arr. Marva W. Costen, 1988

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*affirming together*)

The Apostle's 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 peace of Christ be with you. And also with you.

THE GIFT OF MUSIC

**Sound Over All Waters
Alencia Norria, soloists**

Paul Halley

Sound over all waters reach out from all lands. The chorus of voices, the claspings of hands. Sing hymns that were sung by the stars of the morn, Sing songs of the angels when Jesus was born, With glad jubilation bring hope to the nations: The dark night is ending and dawn has begun. Arise, hope of the ages, Arise like the sun. All speech flows to music, all hearts beat as one. The dark night is ending, and dawn has begun. Blow bugles of battle, the marches of peace. East, west, north and south, let the long quarrels cease: Sing the song of great joy that the angels began, Sing of glory to God and of good will to man! Joining in chorus, the heavens bend o'er us, The dark night is ending and dawn has begun. Arise, hope of the ages, Arise like the sun. All speech flows to music, all hearts beat as one. The dark night is ending, and dawn has begun.

... John Greenleaf Whittier

SEALING THE WORD

At the time of the Distribution of the EUCHARIST, worshipers are invited to come forward to receive the Sacrament. Or, if you prefer, use the bread and wine given out as you entered church this morning. Those worshipping at home via the world wide web may 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.

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 in D

COMMUNION PRAYER

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 image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of text, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

THE INTERCESSIONS AND PRAYERS

(... *in your mercy* ... Lord hear our prayer.)

CONSECRATION

THE LORD'S PRAYER *[we pray 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.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

COMMUNION MUSIC

My Tribute

André Crouch

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN 368

I've Got Peace Like a River

African-American Spiritual

1. I've got peace like a river
I've got peace like a river,
I've got peace like a river in-a my soul,
I've got peace like a river
I've got peace like a river,
I've got peace like a river in-a my soul,

2. I've got joy like a fountain
I've got joy like a fountain,
I've got joy like a fountain in-a my soul.
I've got joy like a fountain
I've got joy like a fountain
I've got joy like a fountain in-a my soul

3. I've got love like an ocean,
I've got love like an ocean,
I've got love like an ocean in-a my soul.
I've got love like an ocean,
I've got love like an ocean,
I've got love like an ocean in-a my soul.

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL BENEDICTION**

Spirit of the Living God

Daniel Iverson

LEADING IN WORSHIP TODAY

The Rev. Denise M. Clark-Jones, *Pastor*
Thomas Clark-Jones, *Organist-Choirmaster*
Alencia Norris, *Guest Soloist*
The Westminster Choir
Larry Hicks, *Video Producer*

WELCOME TO WESTMINSTER CHURCH OF PEORIA and this celebration of the fifth Sunday after the Epiphany. We greet you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ and pray this service will be a blessing to all who participate. We also welcome those who join with us through live-streaming on the world wide web. This service is webcast at www.westminsterpeoria.org. It is covered by permissions granted by One License A 726060 for the use of musical portions of the service as well as to broadcast all music in the service with permission of the various publishers.

THE FIRST CONCERT OF THE SPRING SEASON OF THE IBEN SERIES takes place this afternoon, February 5 at four. Vocalist Jamika Welch joins the Westminster Jazz Ensemble under the direction of David Hoffmann in favorite Spirituals. As a special treat, the Heritage Ensemble of Central Illinois under the direction of Sharon Reed will present a set of memorable choral pieces. Admission is free to the concert, held in the recognition of Black Heritage month. The rich tradition of the African-American spiritual in the music of the United States is impossible to overestimate. The Spiritual, like the Psalms, expresses the deepest longings of mankind and the entire gamut of emotion from grief to exuberant joy. Come and join us for this important and inspirational program.

THIS MORNING'S ANTHEM is a setting of a John Greenleaf Whittier text by composer Paul Halley. The piece was written when Halley was Organist at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City when Coretta Scott King presented the sermon. Halley, a Canadian, captures the essence of the Spiritual in this wonderful anthem. Halley also arranged and wrote music for the famous Paul Winter Consort, an American Jazz institution. Currently Mr. Halley is the Organist-Choirmaster of the Cathedral of All Saints in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. Singing the solo is Alencia Norris who was our alto soloist while at Bradley. She is currently living and working in Chicago, in both the world of finance, and, of course, music!