

CENTRAL
United Church of Christ
GROW FAITH • SHARE LOVE • REACH OUT

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January 24, 2021
THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Josh Mullins

PRELUDE

"I Call to Thee"

- Bach

OPENING HYMN "O Word of God, Incarnate"

O Word of God Incarnate,
O Wisdom from on high,
O Truth unchanged, unchanging,
O Light of our dark sky;
We praise Thee for the radiance
That from the hallowed page,
A lantern to our footsteps,
Shines on from age to age.

O make Thy Church, dear Saviour,
A lamp of purest gold,
To bear among the nations
Thy true light as of old.
O teach Thy wandering pilgrims
By this their path to trace,
Till, clouds and darkness ended,
They see Thee faced to face.

CALL TO WORSHIP

God is our rock and our salvation, whom shall we fear?

GATHERING PRAYER

Teach us anew, rock of our salvation, how your kingdom has come near. As you called Simon and Andrew long ago, call us to be your disciples this day, that we might find refuge and strength as we face the destructive forces of our lives. Grant us the strength to wait for you in silence, that we might meet you in the subterranean chambers of our souls. For in you we rest secure, in you we abide in holy love. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Mark 1:14-20

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Shall We Gather At The River"

- Soloist: Bill Stine; Pianist: Shirley Klein

SERMON

David Kohler

THE NUNC DIMITTIS CREED

"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;
A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel." KJV

The well-known "Nunc Dimittis" was spoken as an answer to the personal message delivered by the Holy Spirit to Simeon. Simeon was a devout, but otherwise ordinary man, not a priest or a prophet. He was promised by the Holy Spirit that he would not taste death until after he had seen the infant Jesus, and was led to the Temple at the exact time, on the same day, that Mary, Joseph, and Jesus appeared for the purpose of satisfying the requirements of the Levitical law. Simeon thus fulfilled his own prophesized event as well as being one of two witnesses to fulfillment of the law by the Holy Family. This passage often is read just before interment at funerals.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

OFFERTORY SCRIPTURE

Matthew 6:21 "...Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

CLOSING HYMN "O Lord of Heaven and Earth and Sea"

O Lord of heaven and earth and sea,
To Thee all praise and glory be;
How shall we show our love to Thee,
Who givest all?

To Thee, from whom we all derive,
Our life, our gifts, our power to give,
O may we ever with Thee live,
Who givest all!

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"If Thou but Suffer God to Guide Thee"

- Bach

(All Hymns and Songs reprinted under CCLI)

Our WORSHIP is ended...our SERVICE now begins.

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Ministers – Every Member

Pastor – Rev. Dr. Judith Scott

Young Youth Director/Bell Choir Director – Rene Miserez

Organist – Shirley Klein

Please keep each other in prayer, particularly those for whom God's healing touch is of special comfort.