

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

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**January 31, 2021**  
**FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

David Kohler

### PRELUDE

*"Prelude in G Minor"*

- Taylor

### OPENING HYMN "O God, Whose Law from Age to Age"

O God, whose law from age to age,  
No chance or change can know,  
Whose love forevermore abides,  
While aeons come and go;  
From all the strife of earthly life,  
to Thine embrace we flee,  
And 'mid our crowding doubts and fears  
Would put our trust in Thee.

Dear Father, we would learn to trust  
The doing of Thy will,  
And in Thy perfect law of love  
Our doubts and fears would still.  
Help us to know, in joy or woe,  
Thy ways are always best,  
And we, Thy children evermore,  
By Thy great goodness blest.

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Praise God, who loves us all.  
Praise God, who is full of mercy and compassion.  
Praise God, who loves us well.

### GATHERING PRAYER

Loving God, love through us, as we worship your holy name. Love through us, as we listen for your holy word. Love through us, as we live your teachings and offer your love to our world. In your majestic name, we pray. Amen.

### SCRIPTURE READING

Deuteronomy 18:15-20  
Mark 1:21-28  
1 Corinthians 8:1-13

### SPECIAL MUSIC

*"How Great Thou Art"*

- Soloist: Roger Hager; Pianist: Gary Sanders

### SERMON

Joshua Mullins

### 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**

2 Corinthians 9:7 "Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

### **CLOSING HYMN "God is Love, His Mercy Brightens"**

God is Love; His mercy brightens  
All the path in which we rove;  
Bliss He makes, and woe He lightens;  
God is Wisdom, God is Love.

He with earthly care entwineth  
Hope and comfort from above:  
Everywhere His glory shineth:  
God is Wisdom, God is Love.

## **BENEDICTION**

### **POSTLUDE**

*"Postlude in C"*

*- 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.*