

# Hope United Church of Christ



6273 Eichelberger at Tamm St. Louis, Missouri 63109 (314) 353-2288

## THE CHURCH GATHERS FOR WORSHIP

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

January 29, 2012

10:30 AM

WELCOME AND MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS AND RINGING THE BELL

PRELUDE "Adagio" from "Sonata in C Minor" -Alexandre Guilmant  
(\* Indicates that those who are able are invited to stand.)

\*WORDS OF GATHERING (adapted from Psalm 111)

Leader: Praise the Lord!

**People: I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart.**

Leader: Great are the works of the Lord.

**People: Full of honor and majesty is God's work, and God righteousness endures forever.**

Leader: The works of God's hands are faithful and just, all God's precepts are trustworthy.

**People: Holy and awesome is Yahweh. God's praise endures forever.**

\*OPENING HYMN #17 "To You, O God, All Creatures Sing" (New Century Hymnal-black)

*Descant*

4 To you, God, day af-ter day, earth in

*Unison*

1 To you, O God, all crea-tures sing, and all cre - a - tion, ev - ery -  
 2 Your wind that blows the tem-pest by, your clouds that sail a - cross the  
 3 Your flow - ing wa - ters, crys - tal clear, make mel - o - dies for you to  
 4 To you, O God, day af - ter day, your plan - et earth in ev - ery

ev-ery way sings your prais - es, al - le - lu - ia! As fruit, fra - grant

*(Harmony)* *(Unison)*

thing sings your prais-es, al-le - lu - ia! Your burn - ing sun with gold-en  
 sky sing your prais-es, al-le - lu - ia! Your morn - ing ris - es with a  
 hear, sing your prais-es, al-le - lu - ia! Your fire, . . . boun-ti - ful and  
 way, sings your prais-es, al-le - lu - ia, As sa - vory fruit and fra-grant

flower show forth glo - ry and power, sing - ing prais - es, al - le -

*(Harmony)*

beam, your sil - ver moon with soft - er gleam sing your prais-es,  
 song, and lights of eve - ning sing a - long, sing your prais-es, al - le -  
 bright, re - mem - bering your warmth and light, sings your prais-es, al - le -  
 flower show forth your glo - ry and your power, sing - ing prais-es,

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

*(Unison)*

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (1)**

**Infinite God, your love extends beyond every boundary, your mercy breaches every barrier. We do not love as you do; we are stingy with our affection and cautious in giving care. We guard the lines that separate us from others instead of seeking to overcome them.**

**Forgive us. Teach us your boundless love and infuse us with your mercy, that we might live more faithfully and love more freely.**

*(moment of silent confession)*

**\*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

**\* RESPONSE OF PRAISE #160 Refrain (New Century Hymnal)**

**We will follow the light, beautiful light,  
Come where the dewdrops of mercy are bright,  
Shine all around us by day and by night,  
Jesus the light of the world.**

**\*PASSING THE PEACE**

**CHORAL ANTHEM "Lord of the Dance" -Sydney Carter; Choral Setting by John Rutter**

**CONVERSATION WITH OUR CHILDREN Sarah Fredriksen McCann**

**THE CHURCH LISTENS FOR GOD'S WORD**

**PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

Deuteronomy 18: 15-21  
I Corinthians 8:1-13

Pew Bible p.153  
Pew Bible p.930-931

**SERMON**

Ed Zumwinkel

**SILENCE AND REFLECTION**

**THE CHURCH RESPONDS TO GOD'S WORD**

**\*Leader: Let us stand, if we are able, and affirm our faith together:**

**All:**

**The Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker 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 on the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

NAMING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

CALL TO PRAYER (tune: "O Lord, hear my prayer")

**The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise:  
All my hope comes from God.  
The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise:  
God, the well-spring of life.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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 "Prayer" from "Suite Gothique"

-Leon Boellmann

\*DOXOLOGY (#782 *New Century Hymnal*)

**To God, all glorious heavenly Light,  
To Christ revealed in earthly night,  
To God the Spirit now we raise  
Our joyful songs of thankful praise.**

*Service continues on next page*

WITNESS

531

# God, Speak to Me, That I May Speak

Frances Ridley Havergal, 1872; alt.

1 God, speak to me, that I may speak in  
2 O lead me, God, that I may lead some  
3 O fill me with your full - ness, God, your  
4 O use me, God, use ev - en me just

liv - ing ech - oes of your tone; as you have sought, so  
wan - der - ers a - long life's way; O feed me so that  
ov - er - flow - ing love to know; In glow - ing word and  
as you will, and when, and where, un - til your bless - ed

let me seek your err - ing chil - dren lost and lone.  
I may feed your hun - gry ones with - out de - lay.  
kin - dling thought, your love to tell, your praise to show.  
face I see, your rest, your joy, your glo - ry share.

*Daughter of the English hymnwriter William H. Havergal, Frances Ridley Havergal was a gifted poet and student of several languages, including Hebrew and Greek. She also composed several hymn tunes. Canonbury was adapted from one of Robert Schumann's piano pieces.*

Tune: CANONBURY L.M.  
Arr. from Robert Schumann, 1872

\*COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE "Allegro" from "Voluntary in D Minor" -John Stanley

**THE CHURCH DISPERSES TO SERVE**

Worship Endnotes

- (1) Call to Worship: Lectionary Aids for 2011-2012, Year B.
- (2) Adapted from Iona Abbey Worship Book, Iona Community, 2001

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**SERMON REFLECTIONS**

**What images, thoughts, connections or questions, arose for you as you experienced worship today? Use the space below to write or draw or “doodle” those reflections.**