

Central Presbyterian Church
Third Sunday of Easter
April 14, 2024 at 11:00 am ET



Gathering

Prelude

Phillip Morgan

Welcome

Rev. Dr. Ann Deibert

Call to Worship

One: Out of the depths we cry to you, O God.

All: Hear our voices!

One: We wait for you;

All: in your word we hope.

Prayer of the Day (**unison**)

**Bread of life and manna from heaven,
you provide for each of us and for all of us.**

You knit us together, each part have a place in the whole body.

**Nourish us, fill us, enliven us,
so that we can feed each other
and seek the good of each and all,
both near and far.**

This we pray through the power of your Holy Spirit.

* Hymn No. 5

“God, the Sculptor of the Mountains”

Congregation

JENNINGS-HOUSTON

Prayer of Confession (**unison**)

**Gracious and merciful God,
we admit we have turned away from how you have called us to live;
in what we have done and what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength.
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

Forgive us.

**Set us free from a past that we cannot change;
open to us a future in which we can be changed;
and grant us grace
to grow more and more in your likeness and image.**
(a time for silent prayer)

Assurance of God's Promise

One: Friends, the good news is this:

God's grace is poured out like water;
mercy flows like a never-ending stream,
bathing us in goodness and love.

We are forgiven.

So let us live as those who have received new life.

All: Thanks be to God!

Song of Thanksgiving

Hymn No. 243

“Be Not Afraid”

BE NOT AFRAID

Congregation

The Journey

* Passing the Peace

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you!

*Song of Community

Hymn No. 240

“Alleluia, Alleluia Give Thanks”

ALLELUIA NO. 1

(We will sing verse 2.)

Congregation

Listening

Prayer for Illumination

One: Listen for the word of God.

All: Our ears and hearts are open.

Scripture

John 6.35, 41-51

One: For the word of God in scripture
for the word of God among us
for the word of God within us

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Rev. Abbi Heimach-Snipes

Responding

* Hymn No. 650

“O Beauty Ever Ancient”
ANCIENT BEAUTY

Congregation

Prayers of Intercession & The Lord’s Prayer

Offering *(To make a donation please see the options on the back page of the bulletin.)*

Anthem

“Taste and See”

Chancel Choir

James E. Moore, Jr.

* Doxology

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Congregation

Hymn No. 609

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

* Prayer of Commitment

* Hymn No. 526

“Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ”

Congregation

LINSTEAD

* Benediction

One: And all God’s people said,

All: Amen!

Postlude

Phillip Morgan

We welcome Rev. Abbi Heimach-Snipes (she/her) as our preacher this morning. During Abbi's formative years as a child and young adult, she always had a fiery heart for dismantling injustice through the lens of her faith and organizing for a more inclusive world. Today, she continues that spark in ministry collaboratively leading Covenant Community Church as we respond to a turbulent world and hold the tension of needing healing, seeking justice and celebrating the beauty and love of creation around us. Abbi has served as a pastor at Fourth Presbyterian Church in Chicago, IL, St. Christopher's Episcopal Church in Oak Park, IL, and at The First Presbyterian Church of LaPorte, IN. She worked with Crossroads Antiracism Organizing and Training as an organizer and trainer and has experience teaching public elementary special education. She holds degrees from the College of Wooster in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies and Religious Studies, and a Masters of Divinity from McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago, IL. She also is an interfaith interspiritual certified spiritual companion. She enjoys gardening and composting with her spouse Ben and two young children. You'll likely find her trying to practice presence in the playful and emotional landscape of young children, baking/fermenting, and dreaming of ways we can bring God's kin-dom here.

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God the Sculptor of the Mountains 5



1 God the sculp - tor of the moun - tains, God the
 2 God the nui - sance of the Pha - raoh, God the
 3 God the dress - er of the vine - yard, God the
 4 God the un - ex - pect - ed in - fant, God the



mill - er of the sand, God the jewel - er of the
 cleav - er of the sea, God the pil - lar in the
 plant - er of the wheat, God the reap - er of the
 calm, de - ter - mined youth, God the ta - ble - turn - ing



heav - ens, God the pot - ter of the land:
 dark - ness, God the bea - con of the free:
 har - vest, God the source of all we eat:
 proph - et, God the res - ur - rect - ed truth:



you are womb of all cre - a - tion;
 you are fount of all de - liv - erance;
 you are host at ev - ery ta - ble;
 you are pres - ent ev - ery mo - ment;



we are form - less; shape us now.
 we are aim - less; lead us now.
 we are hun - gry; feed us now.
 we are search - ing; meet us now.

Despite the great sweep of these stanzas, each one ends by describing how our human condition needs God's help: formless, aimless, hungry, searching. Each of these adjectives is followed by a related three-syllable petition: shape us now, lead us now, feed us now, meet us now.

Be Not Afraid

243

Be not a - fraid; sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al - le - lu - ia!

The first system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 4/4 time signature. The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature. The melody in the upper staff begins with a quarter note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, a quarter note Bb4, and a half note C5. The bass line in the lower staff consists of a series of chords and single notes, including a quarter note G2, a quarter note F2, a quarter note E2, and a half note D2.

Be not a - fraid; sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al - le - lu - ia!

The second system of music is identical in notation to the first system, featuring the same melodic and bass lines for the lyrics "Be not a - fraid; sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al - le - lu - ia!".

Intended for repeated singing like other chants from the Taizé Community, this text began in Czech as "Nebojte se." The English version uses the language of the angel's greeting to Mary Magdalene and "the other Mary," who went to Jesus' tomb on Easter morning (Matthew 28:5-6).

TEXT: Taizé Community, 1998
MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1998
Text and Music © 1998 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

BE NOT AFRAID
4.4.8.D

240 Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks

Descant

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

Refrain E C#m F#m B

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give thanks to the ris - en Lord. Al - le -

al - le - lu - ia! Praise to his name.

E C#m F#m B E

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give praise to his name.

E C#m F#m B

- 1 Je - sus is Lord of all the earth.
- 2 Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
- 3 We have been cru - ci - fied with Christ.
- 4 Come let us praise the liv - ing God,

E C#m F#m B

to Refrain

He is the King of cre - a - tion.
 Je - sus has died and has ris - en.
 Now we shall live for - ev - er.
 joy - ful - ly sing to our Sav - ior.

This text and tune were created together in the context of an ecumenical, charismatic, missionary Christian community in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Their energy and emphasis center in the opening and closing refrain's "Alleluia"—the essential Easter word of proclamation.

O Beauty Ever Ancient 650

Capo 3: (D) (G) (Em) (C) (G) (Em) (A) (D)
 F B^b Gm E^b B^b Gm C F

1 O beau-ty ev - er an - cient, O beau-ty ev - er new,
 2 O beau-ty in cre - a - tion, in world of sound and sight,
 3 O beau-ty that is move - ment in liq - uid line of grace,
 4 O beau-ty of the Spir - it where love is shin - ing through,

(G) (Em) (F#7) (Bm) (G) (Em) (A) (D)
 B^b Gm A7 Dm B^b Gm C F

di - vine and Ho - ly Pres - ence, my be - ing sings to you,
 O beau-ty in the si - lence, in dark - ness as in light,
 O beau-ty that is still - ness in love - ly form or face,
 O beau-ty ev - er an - cient, O beau-ty ev - er new,

(D) (G) (Em) (C) (G) (C) (Dsus)(D) (G)
 F B^b Gm E^b B^b E^b Fsus F B^b

in grat - i-tude, in wor - ship my be - ing sings to you!

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

Both Psalms 29:2b and 96:6a encourage us to “worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness,” yet celebrating the beauty of the holy God is not an end in itself but involves a call to oppose unjust ugliness. The beauty that draws us to God also urges us to work for mercy and justice.

TEXT: Shirley Erena Murray, 2000
 MUSIC: Alfred V. Fedak, 2007
 Text © 2000 Hope Publishing Company
 Music © 2009 Selah Publishing Co., Inc.

ANCIENT BEAUTY
 7.6.7.6 with refrain

609 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow



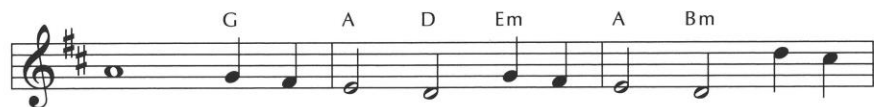
Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow. Praise God, all crea-tures



high and low. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise



God, in Je - sus ful - ly known: Cre - a - tor, Word, and Spir - it



one. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -



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

526 Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a
 2 Christ is a - ble to make us one; at the ta - ble he
 3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a



shout of joy: bread is bro - ken; the wine is poured;
 sets the tone, teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless,
 world of doubt, gives us love to tell, bread to share:




Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
 love in word and in deed ex - press. Je - sus lives a - gain;
 God (Im - man - u - el) ev - ery - where!



earth can breathe a - gain; pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

Maracas and other rhythm instruments may be used. 

This "communion calypso" (as the author called it) affirms the continuing presence of Christ both in the sacramental meal and in the lives of Christians. Because this text was written to fit a pre-existing tune, it has a rather telegraphic style that encourages pondering.

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A check or cash can be placed in one of the offering boxes near the sanctuary doors

Central Presbyterian Church

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www.centralchurchky.org

Parents and Kids:

- Child care is available during the worship service for children 6 years old and younger. Please see a greeter or another parent for the passcode for the child care area.
- Worship bags for kids can be found by the table on the screen side of the sanctuary.
- Books for kids can be found by the table at the back of the pews.
- Faith Formation for Families (kids, parents, grandparents, caregivers) happens monthly after worship. Connect with Ann Deibert for more information.

Our Church



Matthew 25 (pcusa.org/matthew25) We have committed to building congregational vitality, dismantling systemic racism, and eradicating systemic poverty.



Peacemaking (pcusa.org/peacemaking)



More Light (mlp.org). We welcome the full participation of LGBTQ+ people of faith in the life, ministry, and witness of the Presbyterian Church.



Four for Four We support Presbyterian mission around the corner and around the globe through the four church-wide Special Offerings.

Choice Congregation We support the rights of all people to access the full spectrum of reproductive healthcare choices without coercion or judgment.

Our Staff

Pastor – Rev. Dr. Ann J. Deibert ann@centralchurchky.org

Director of Music – Mr. Phillip Morgan phillip@centralchurchky.org

Administrative Assistant – Ms. Barbara Creasy office@centralchurchky.org

In-person office hours:

Mondays 10am—1:00pm, Wednesdays 2:30pm—5:30pm, Fridays 10am—2pm

Other times by appointment