



"Tanz ums goldene Kalb," Margaret Hofheinz-Döring, 1962



THE 28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
A Service of the Word

October 11, 2020 ✦ 10:00 a.m.

The 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Idols perpetuate themselves by erecting self-justifying ideologies and informational systems with the ability to turn falsehood into seeming truth by the distortion of language itself.”

— *Jim Wallis, in Agenda for Biblical People*

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit gathers us in unity on the first day, the day of Christ's resurrection

Prelude — “Ciacona in F minor” by Pachelbel

Dr. Patricia Snyder

Welcome

Greeting

One: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Many: **And also with you.**

Call to Worship — *inspired by Psalm 106*

One: Hallelujah! Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good,
for God's mercy endures forever.

Many: **Who can declare the mighty acts of the LORD
or proclaim in full God's praise?**

One: Happy are those who act with justice
and always do what is right.

Many: **And yet, even when the people rebel through their own schemes
and are brought down in their iniquity,
nevertheless, God sees their distress,
and hears their lamentation.**

One: God remembers the covenants
and returns out of steadfast love.

Many: **Blessed be the LORD—**

**God of our ancestors, God of our descendants—
from everlasting to everlasting;
and let all the people say, “Amen!” and “Hallelujah!”**

Hymn — “God of Abraham and Sarah”

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Prayer of the Day

One: Let us pray.

Many: God of mighty deeds and gentle mercies,
we gather to give you praise this day,
you who never leave us.

Help us to stay with you when we are tempted to flee,
and keep us seeking after that which is true,
that all may know that you are the Lord, our God,
a steadfast presence in whatever our reality. Amen.

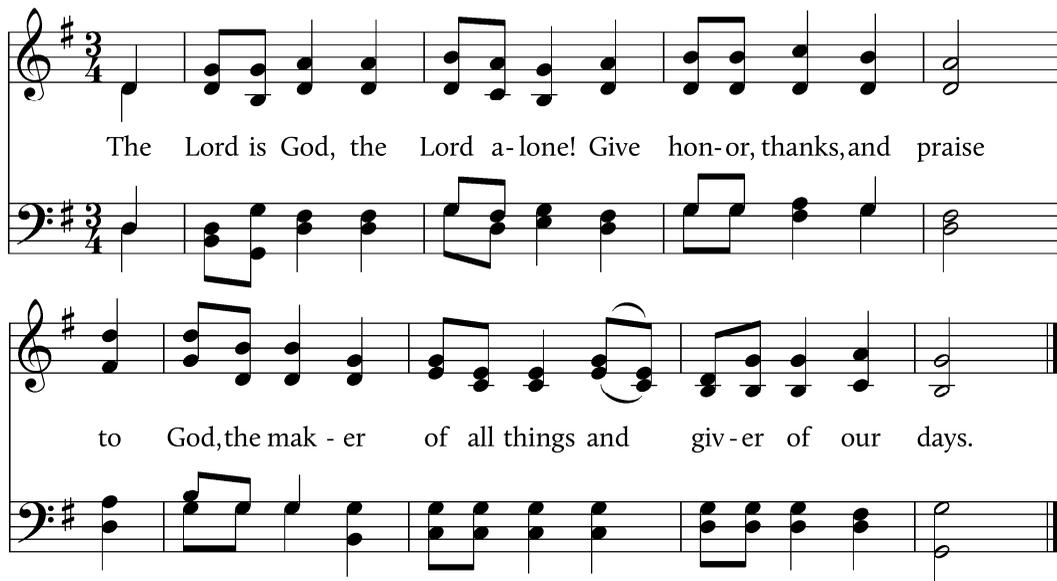
News from our Life Together

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song

Refrain — “The Lord Is God”

AZMON



The Lord is God, the Lord a-lone! Give hon-or, thanks, and praise
to God, the mak-er of all things and giv-er of our days.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading — Exodus 32:1-14

After Israel sinned by worshiping the golden calf, Moses interceded with God to spare Israel, lest the Egyptians conclude that God had evil intents in the exodus. Moses reminds God of the promises God made to Israel's matriarchs and patriarchs.

The *refrain* (“The Lord Is God” – music above) is repeated.

Sermon — “All that Glitters...”

The Rev. Matthew Emery

RESPONSE

We begin our lives of responding to the gospel in prayer and offering

Responding with our Gifts

Give online: Go to www.storrsconchurch.org and click the green “Give now...” button.

Text: Text “StorrsCongChurch” to 73256, followed by your gift amount (i.e. “StorrsCongChurch \$100”) to access online giving via text message.

Those participating via Zoom are welcome to submit prayer petitions (joys and concerns) during this time via the Chat feature in Zoom.

An Offering Thought

Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. – Philippians 4:6

“Will there be enough?” Many are asking this question in the midst of growing economic uncertainty and fear. Christians know that this is the wrong question. With God there is always enough and a little bit more—enough to share. If this question crosses your mind, remember Paul’s words to the Philippian church. Don’t worry; give thanks and pray. God will provide a way.

OFFERTORY MUSIC — “The Heavens Are Telling” by Beethoven

Jan Castle, piano

Choral Scholars: Sarah Marze, Audrey Rivetta, Cooper Clark, Jonah Garcia

The heav’ns are telling the Lord’s endless glory,
Thro’ all the earth His praise is found.
The seas re-echo the marvelous story,
O man, repeat that glorious sound.
The starry host He orders and measures,
He fills the morning’s golden springs;
He wakes the sun from his night curtained slumbers,
Oh man, adore the King of Kings.
What power and splendor, and wisdom and order,
In nature’s mighty plan unroll’d!
Thro’ space and time to infinity’s border,
What wonders vast and manifold.
The earth is His, and the heav’ns o’er it bending
The Maker in His works behold!
He is, and will be, Thro’ ages unending,
A God of strength and love untold.

The Prayers of the People, *ending with* The Lord's Prayer

Many: 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 glory forever. Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us forth in mission for the world

Hymn — “Great is Thy Faithfulness”

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Benediction

Postlude — “Toccatina in D minor” by Pachelbel

Dr. Patricia Snyder

Following the postlude, the Zoom Meeting will remain open for those who wish to connect and chat—a bring-your-own-coffee “coffee hour”! We look forward to connecting with you!

Notes and Acknowledgements

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1 *Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;
 2 Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,

there is no shad - ow of turn - ing with thee.
 sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove
 thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide,

Thou chang - est not; thy com - pas - sions they fail not.
 join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
 strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row:

As thou hast been thou for - ev - er wilt be.
 to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
 bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

**Or "Great is thy faithfulness, O God, Creator."*

Written as a meditation on Lamentations 3:22–23, this text is one of the few hymns among the 1200 poems by this Methodist writer and pastor that has gained much currency. The tune that appears here was composed especially for these words, and the pairing has proved enduring.

Refrain

Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness!
 오 신 실 하 신 주 오 신 실 하 신 주

Morn - ing by morn - ing, new mer - cies I see.
 날 마 다 자 비 를 배 푸 시 며

All I have need - ed thy hand hath pro - vid - ed.
 일 용 할 모 든 것 내 러 주 시 니

Great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord un - to me!
 오 신 실 하 신 주 나 의 구 주

GOD

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God of Abraham and Sarah

James Gertmenian, 1986; alt.



1 God of A - bra - ham and Sar-ah, God of Mo - ses, Mir - iam's Guide;
2 God who danc - es in cre - a - tion, spin - ning stars a - bove our heads;
3 God who loves the poor in spir - it, God who com - forts those who mourn;
4 In our lives from birth to dy - ing, depth of sor - row, height of joy;



God of Da - vid and the proph - ets, God in Je - sus glo - ri - fied:
God whose face is scribed in mu - sic, by whose hand the earth is fed:
Balm for wounds, the friend of sin - ners, tak - ing the side of earth's for - lorn:
Prais - ing God in ev - ery sea - son, let ev - ery key our hearts em - ploy.



Up from the dust you raise a peo - ple, breathe in the breath of life, of soul;
Up from the ground you raise the moun - tains, raise our spir - its, lift our eyes;
Up from the depths you raise your peo - ple, giv - ing them cour - age for the day;
Praise is the heal - ing, praise, the glo - ry, praise is the fin - al mys - ter - y;



Down through the years the peo - ple praise you till al - le - lu - ias make them whole!
Down through the years your peo - ple praise you till al - le - lu - ias flood the skies!
Down through the years the peo - ple praise you till al - le - lu - ias light their way!
Down through the years let peo - ple praise you till al - le - lu - ias set them free!

The healing power of praise and the history of God's dealings with humankind are the themes of this hymn, written by a United Church of Christ minister who is the grandson of Armenian immigrants. The tune is named for his father.

Tune: CONSTANTINE 8.7.8.7.D.
Melody by James Gertmenian, 1986
Harm. Ronald Huntington, 1986; alt.

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STORRS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

*We share in God's love by growing in faith,
courageously seeking justice, and generously caring for all people.*

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