



*"Heitere Gebirgslandschaft [Joyful Mountain Landscape]"
painting by Paul Klee, 1929*



THE 29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
A Service of the Word

October 18, 2020 ✦ 10:00 a.m.

The 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

“In heaven, the mystery of God, precisely as mystery, will be our eternal blessedness.”

— *An anonymous Carthusian*

GATHERING

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

Prelude — “Humble Yourself” by Carson Cooman

Dr. Patricia Snyder, organ

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

One: The earth has its kings, but God is ruler of all.

Many: **Praise God above all, the giver of life!**

One: The mountains may tremble, the oceans may roar,

Many: **but God's presence is more powerful
than the earth itself.**

One: Come into God's presence, for God is among us now.

Many: **We yearn to see God's glory; we seek God's ways.**

One: Come to the Rock, the God of life,
for God is present now.

Hymn — “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

this bulletin, pg. 6

Prayer of the Day

One: Let us pray.

Many: **Light up our lives, loving Lord:**

let us reflect the radiance of your love on those around us.

Burn within our beings,

until we are aglow with your grace, O God.

Reach beyond our earthbound existences

into the heart and soul of each community with whom we come into contact.

Transform us with your glory,

so all will see and know

that you are God. Amen.

News from our Life Together

WORD

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

Refrain — “In God Alone”

MON ÂME SE REPOSE (Taizé)

In God a - lone my soul can find rest and peace, in
Mon â - me se re - po - se en paix sur Dieu seul: de

God my peace and joy. On - ly in God my
lui vient mon sa - lut. Oui, sur Dieu seul mon

soul can find its rest, find its rest and peace.
â - me se re - po - se, se re - po - se en paix.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading — Exodus 33:12-23

Moses successfully interceded with God to accompany Israel to the promised land after their sin with the golden calf. In response to a request to display the divine glory, God recites a sentence that appears frequently in the Hebrew Scriptures: “I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious.” Moses is not allowed to see God’s face, but only God’s back.

The refrain (“In God Alone” – music above) is repeated.

Sermon — “Hindsight is 20/20”

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.storrscongchurch.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

“I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places, so that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who call you by your name.” – Isaiah 45:3

We share God’s abundance through our hands and work, but is still the abundance of God, who loves us and desires good for all creation. How might your hands sharing God’s abundance help point others to Jesus?

OFFERTORY MUSIC — “Esto Les Digo” by Kinley Lange

SCC Choral Scholars:

Sarah Marze, Audrey Rivetta, Cooper Clark, & Jonah Garcia

“Esto les digo,
si dos de ustedes se ponen,
se ponen de acuerdo aquí en,
en la tierra para pedir,
pedir algo en oración,
mi padre que está en el cielo,
se lo dará.
Porque donde dos o tres se reúnen
en mi nombre
allí estoy yo,
en medio de ellos.”

*“This I say to you,
if two of you are put,
are put in accord here in,
in the earth to ask,
to ask anything in prayer,
my Father which is in heaven,
will give it to you.
Because where two or three are gathered together
in my name,
There am I,
In the midst of them.”*

— Jesus, in Matthew 18:19-20

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 — “We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight”

this bulletin, pg. 7

Benediction

Postlude — “Toccatà” by Pachelbel

Dr. Patricia Snyder, organ

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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Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise 12

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small.
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light.

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might:
 In all life thou liv - est, the true life of all.
 Thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight.

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 thy jus - tice, like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove;
 We blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
 All praise we would ren - der; O help us to see

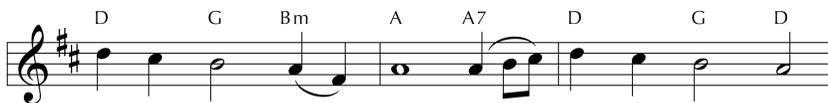
al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise.
 thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 then with - er and per - ish; but naught chang - eth thee.
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

The opening line of this hymn was inspired by the three divine attributes listed in 1 Timothy 1:17 (King James Version), and it continues by considering how God's life exceeds our own finite existence. The text is well set to a Welsh melody shaped by many three-note units.

817 We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight



1 We walk by faith and not by sight; with
 2 We may not touch your hands and side, nor
 3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; and
 4 And when our life of faith is done, in



gra - cious words draw near, O Christ, who spoke as
 fol - low where you trod; but in your prom - ise
 may our faith a - bound to call on you when
 realms of clear - er light may we be - hold you



none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."
 we re - joice and cry, "My Lord and God!"
 you are near and seek where you are found.
 as you are, with full and end - less sight.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

The opening line here is essentially a quotation of 2 Corinthians 5:7, but that affirmation is fleshed out by references to the appearance of the risen Christ to Thomas (John 20:19–29). The shape note tune, named for a stream in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, adds resolution to the words.

A Note on Giving: We welcome and encourage your financial generosity in support of the Storrs Congregational Church UCC and our mission to share in God's love by growing in faith, courageously seeking justice, and generously caring for all people! Your giving back to God and God's mission through the life of this church is a part of your gratitude towards God and your faithful stewardship of all that God has entrusted to you. There are a number of ways you can make a financial contribution:

- **Mail:** You can mail your check or money order to us at the church office:
Storrs Congregational Church UCC, 2 North Eagleville Rd., Storrs Mansfield, CT 06268.
- **Drop-off:** You can drop off cash, checks, or money orders at the church office during the week.
- **Online Bill Pay:** Most banks and credit unions offer an "online bill pay" in their online account access. All you need to do is set up the church as another payee in that system, and your bank or credit union will take care of printing a check and mailing it to us—you don't even need to find a stamp! There is no cost, either to you or to the church, for using this option! You can even set up your contribution as an automatic/recurring payment, so that your generosity keeps flowing always.
- **Online or text via ACH debit from a checking or savings account:** By using our website giving portal (go to www.storrsconchurch.org and click the green "Give now..." button), you can make an auto-debit from your checking or savings account. (Note that we are assessed a small processing fee, 1% of the contribution, plus 35¢ per transaction. You will be given the option—and it is optional—when you make your contribution to add a small amount to offset the 1% processing fee.)
- **Online or text via Debit Card or Credit Card:** By using our website giving portal (go to www.storrsconchurch.org and click the green "Give now..." button), you can charge your contribution to a debit card or credit card. (Note that we are assessed a small processing fee, 3% of the contribution, plus 35¢ per transaction. You will be given the option—and it is optional—when you make your contribution to add a small amount to offset the 3% processing fee.) Please note, if using a *credit* card: we as a church do *not* want you to add to any debt load in order for you to contribute, as that's not good stewardship for any of us! If using a *credit* card, please make sure for your own sake that it is a card for which you pay off the balance each month.

If you have any questions about how to make a contribution, or about your giving history, feel free to contact our Collector, Donna Latincsics (contact info available through the church office).

We envision our community as a welcoming, historic, and progressive Christian community. We are an Open and Affirming congregation: Believing that each of us is unique and blessed with special talents from God, each a creation of God's love, alike and yet different, we open our doors and our ministry to *all*. We accept into full participation in the life of this Church: people of any age, economic status, gender, marital status, race, sexual orientation, and physical, emotional and mental capability. As a community, we will work to put aside all prejudices and to affirm and promote the worth and dignity of each person.

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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