



TRADITIONAL WORSHIP
October 31, 2021

PRELUDE "Nimrod" by Edward Elgar
featuring Tom Bara, organ

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Linda Stephan

CALL TO WORSHIP Shelley Ehrenberger

One: Gathered in the name of Jesus Christ,
inspired by Holy Spirit, and blessed by the God who creates.

ALL: We come to worship the one, holy God.

One: You God, who we find life in, how wonderful is your name in all the earth.

ALL: Your majesty is the music of the starry skies.

Yet even children of dust can sing your praises.

One: So in the name of this Healer, this Provider this Enabler,
let our gratitude and joy be made known - by our voices,
our cracked-open hearts, our gifts to share.

ALL: O God, our own God, how wonderful is your name in all the earth!

HYMN "God Whose Love is Reigning O'er Us" UMH No. 100

BLESSING THE CHILDREN Rev. Linda Stephan
"Where Children Belong" (all sing)

***This, this is where children belong, welcomed as part of the worshiping throng.
Water, God's Word, bread and cup, prayer, and song: This is where children belong.***

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE Shelley Ehrenberger

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into
temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the
glory, forever. Amen.**

MINISTRY OF MUSIC "Offertory" by John Ness Beck
featuring Central's Chancel Choir

*With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him
with burnt offerings, shall I come before him with yearling calves? Will the Lord to be pleased
with thousands of rams, with ten thousand rivers of oil? Shall I give him my first born for my
transgressions, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul? He has shown you, O man; he has shown
you what is good. And what does the Lord require of you but to do justice and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with God?*

SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 Chronicles 21: 21-27

(Common English Bible)

key verse: "I will not make an offering to the Lord that costs me nothing!"

Leader: The Word of God for the People of God. **People: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Our Money Story—Stewardship Series:
Chapter Five— "Respond & Rejoice!"

Rev. Chris Lane

A TIME OF REFLECTION AS WE PREPARE OUR GIFTS AND PLEDGES

DOXOLOGY

UMH No. 94

Praise God from whom all blessing flow;

Praise God all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

PRAYER LITANY OF DEDICATION

Rev. Linda Stephan

One: Gracious God, we come with pledges and promises and good intentions.

We admit that giving is complicated. At times it is easier to remember our shame or guilt around giving, as opposed to your joy and generosity.

We've looked at our money stories, and how they've affected us all in different ways.

ALL: So today as we offer our gifts to you, we pray that You would re-center our story. Remind us that we do not give out of shame or guilt.

We do not give out of obligation. We do not give to feel worthy.

And we do not give to buy your Grace.

One: We give out of a desire to participate, to let it cost us something.

We give as a sign of gratitude. We give because we belong to one another.

We give to build a more just and equitable world.

We give because we love, and that's what love does.

ALL: So take these pledged gifts and remind us that we belong to one another.

Remind us that all money stories are welcome at this table.

Remind us that whatever shame or guilt we bring with us

will be washed away with your empathy and love.

Remind us, and then help us to build that more beautiful world.

In hope we pray as Christ's Body in the world, Amen.

HYMN

"What Gift Can We Bring"

UMH No. 87

BENEDICTION

Rev. Chris Lane

CHORAL BENEDICTION

"Benediction"

by Candice Wallace

POSTLUDE

"Thou Art the Rock"

by Henri Mulet

featuring Tom Bara, organ

You are invited to remain seated for the postlude as part of your worship experience.

(If you choose to exit the sanctuary during the postlude, please do so quietly. Thank you.)

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS:

PASTORS: Rev. Chris Lane and Rev. Linda Stephan
Shelley Ehrenberger, liturgist

MUSIC: Tom Bara, organist; Michael Coonrod, pianist;
Central's Chancel Choir, Jeffrey Cobb, director

GREETERS: Kathy Steen, Scott and Alicia Swanson, Shelley Ehrenberger

AUDIO/VIDEO TEAM: Tom Bartlett, Tom Atkinson, Lynne Lombard, John Sonnemann
Kim Burch, pre-production coordinator
Silvio Ciccone, production director

**Thank you
for joining us today!**



SCAN TO GIVE YOUR GIFT NOW



SCAN TO CHECK IN NOW

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