



Presbyterian Church of
Western Springs

Sunday, January 15, 2023 | 9:30 A.M.

Second Sunday after Epiphany
Worshipping Together

GATHERING TOGETHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE

Jesus Loves Me
Stephanie Coates, organ

setting by Marianne Kim

GATHERING & GREETING

The Rev. Lesley Weir

PRAYER OF TRANSITION

God of Love, You are with us in every transition and change. As we enter into this new era with excitement and even some anxiety, we recall your deep compassion, presence, and abounding love. We thank you for the gifts, talents and skills with which you have blessed us and our PNC. We thank you for the experiences that have brought us to this moment. We thank you for the work of others that will lead us to our next pastor. Be with us as we move forward, rejoicing with you and supporting one another. We ask this in your Holy Name. Amen

♦ CALL TO WORSHIP

Paul Banovic

O God, you are the gathering one who calls us into community with each other to love and work, to support and heal.

You are the gathering one who calls us into community with all people; to bring justice and hope, freedom and truth.

You are the gathering one who calls us into community with the whole creation; to live in harmony, to cherish and renew.

Let us worship the God who makes us one.

♦ OPENING HYMN #401

Here in This Place (vs.1, 2 & 4)

GATHER US IN

♦ CALL TO CONFESSION

Each week, we have the chance to practice opening our hearts to God's grace. Each week, we have the chance to practice saying "we're sorry", softening our egos as we readily admit our wayward ways. Please join me, first in silence and then together, as we open our hearts once again to God's grace upon grace...

♦ PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Truth be told, Jesus, there are lots of tables that need overturning in our lives; beneath the veneer of respectability hide dark addictions and angry judgements, hungry greeds and heartless rejections. We know the pain—and so do those around us—of keeping up the facade; what a relief it would be to have it all upset, smashed, scattered, destroyed. So, perhaps, Jesus, today you could pay us a visit and help us to radically rearrange the furniture of our lives.

♦ Indicates congregation standing, if able.

♦ ASSURANCE OF PARDON

While it is true that God knows what needs to be overthrown in each of us, it is also true that God's steadfast love and mercy abound, giving new life to each and every one of us. **Amen!**

♦ GLORIA PATRI

Glory Be to the Father

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father and to the Son; and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

♦ PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

PROCLAIMING THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

The Rev. Lesley Weir

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 2:13-25

Pew Bible, New Testament, pages 87-88

CHILDREN'S SERMON & LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor Lesley

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

SERMON

The Tent of Meeting

The Rev. Lesley Weir

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

♦ HYMN OF RESPONSE

When Christ Went to The Temple*

sung to Lancashire,

*When Christ went to the Temple to worship God one day,
He entered through the courtyard where anyone could pray.*

"Lead On, O King Eternal"

*That court was for the nations — and all could enter in.
But Jesus found a market, a shameful robbers' den.*

*There, cattle, sheep and pigeons were sold for sacrifice,
And moneychangers shouted of quality and price.*

*Outsiders could not enter the inner courts for prayer.
Their only place to worship was in the courtyard there.*

When prayer gave way to profit, and pride closed many doors,

The Lord cried out in anger and made a whip of cords.

He shooed the sheep and cattle and scattered pigeons, too.

God's house was for all people — not for a chosen few.

O God, you love the nations and call us all to pray.

Forgive us when our worship turns other folk away.

As Christ, in loving protest, fought prejudice and pride,

May we who follow Jesus now welcome all inside.

PASTORAL PRAYER

SHARING OUR GIFTS AND GRATITUDES

OFFERTORY

Jesus is the Living Stone

by Mary McDonald

Amy Malone, Sheryl Allen & Scott Swan - trio

♦ PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND THANKS

We acknowledge with deep thanks that all we have is a gift from you, Divine Love. Each week, we return to you but a fraction of what you have poured into our lives; may our gifts and our thanks become grace upon grace for those places of lack and want in our world. Amen.

GO IN GOD'S NAME

♦ SENDING HYMN #547

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

AR HYD Y NOS

♦ CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing
Stephanie Coates, organ

arr. by Douglas Wagner

The nursery is available during worship and fellowship with Ms. Shaquirra

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Here in This Place

401

Gather Us In



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing; now is the dark-ness
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys-tery. We are the old who
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa-ter; here we will take the
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con-fin-ing, not in some heav-en,



van-ished a-way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
 yearn for your face. We have been sung through-out all of his-tory,
 bread of new birth. Here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,
 light years a-way: here in this place the new light is shin-ing;



brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu-man race.
 call us a-new to be salt for the earth.
 now is the king-dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for-sak-en; gath-er us in, the
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty; gath-er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com-pas-sion; give us to eat the
 Gath-er us in and hold us for-ev-er; gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a-wak-en;
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low-ly;
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash-ion
 make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo-ples to-geth-er,



we shall a-rise at the sound of our name.
 give us the cour-age to en-ter the song.
 lives that are ho-ly and hearts that are true.
 fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

The "you/your" mentioned in every stanza is never identified, but this 1979 hymn is clearly a corporate prayer to God on behalf of the diverse congregation who have assembled for worship, longing to be transformed and used as God's witnesses and for God's purposes.

Glory Be to the Father

581

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the

The first system of the musical score is in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The vocal line begins with a dotted quarter note on G4, followed by quarter notes on A4, B-flat4, and C5. The accompaniment consists of a steady bass line of quarter notes: G2, B-flat2, D3, and E-flat3.

Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be -

The second system continues the melody. The vocal line has a dotted quarter note on G4, a quarter note on A4, and a half note on B-flat4. The accompaniment features a mix of quarter and eighth notes, including a chromatic movement from E-flat3 to D3.

gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be,

The third system features a dotted quarter note on G4, followed by quarter notes on A4, B-flat4, and C5. The accompaniment continues with a steady bass line of quarter notes: G2, B-flat2, D3, and E-flat3.

world with - out end. A - men, a - men.

The final system concludes with a dotted quarter note on G4, a quarter note on A4, and a half note on B-flat4. The accompaniment includes a chromatic movement from E-flat3 to D3. The piece ends with a double bar line.

Go, My Children, with My Blessing 547

1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
 2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
 3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.

Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
 Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.

In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for -
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry; here you touched him, saw his
 Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you; here my ten - der com - fort

ev - er. Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."
 glo - ry. Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."
 stilled you. Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."

Because this Welsh melody usually sets evening texts, the author was asked to create one for use in daytime. His recasting of the Aaronic blessing in Numbers 6:22–27 imagines that passage as a benediction that might be spoken by God at the conclusion of a worship service.