

The Downtown Presbyterian Church
Order of Worship for February 7, 2021
Fifth Sunday After Epiphany

Opening Voluntary

Chorale Prelude on *St. Denio*
Melody for hymn "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

Harold Rohlig

Welcome

Call to Worship

Praise the LORD! How good it is to sing praises to our God;
for God is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting.
God heals the brokenhearted, and binds up their wounds.
God determines the number of the stars and gives to all of them their names.
Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; God's understanding is beyond measure.

Hymn

"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"
Amy Finka, cantor

Call to Confession

We gather in God's presence and are reminded of our humanity. We gather in the presence of the divine, the everlasting, the wise. We are reminded of our mortality, our short-sightedness, our foolishness. But we know that our prayers of confession are heard before we even speak them. We know, that among all of these other traits, God is gracious. And so we confess our brokenness to God and each other:

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Have we not known? Have we not heard? Has it not been told to us from the beginning? Have we not understood from the foundations of the earth?
We have known it, we have heard it, we have understood it. You, God, are ruler of all. You demand justice, peace, and love.
We have known it, we have heard it, we have understood it. But our society is so broken, we have failed to act as though we know.
We fear what justice for them will mean for us. And we have been disappointed so many times that it's easier to understand the ways that are not your ways.
Forgive us, God.
Help us, because we want to live in a world of justice, peace, and love. Help us to see the broken systems that tear down your justice, to understand them, and to repair them. Help us to see the greed and lust for power that tear down your peace, to understand them, and to heal them. Help us to see the pain and fear that keep us from your love, help us to understand, and to overcome.
We ask this in the name of Jesus, who lived and died and rose again, that we may see your kingdom.
Amen.

(Silent prayer)

Assurance of God's Grace

Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. God does not faint or grow weary and God's understanding is unsearchable. God gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. Those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles.

God's forgiveness, God's grace, God's faith in you and in all of us frees us. God renews us and strengthens us.

Hear and believe the good news: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

With this grace and with this gratitude, I also wish you peace.

The peace of Christ be with you. Please share that peace with the people around you, or wish your neighbors peace in the comment section.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Announcements

Children's Message

Suzie Lane

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 40:21-31

New Testament Reading

Mark 1:29-39

Sermon

Rev. Jeannie Hunter

Hymn

"We Come to You for Healing, Lord"

Amy Finka, cantor

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION, PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER (people read **bold**)

O God of transformation,
Use us to embody your love in the world
May broken hearts be embraced by our love,
May grieving mothers find us willing to share their tears
May lonely elders find our community attentive
May despairing youth feel encouraged by our support
May displaced migrants be welcomed into safety here
May unemployed workers find comfort and labor
May the mourning feel some peace
And may we be prophets, speaking to all of these things.

O Spirit, empower us to uphold the vulnerable
Through our prayers and our actions
Enable us to live into your deepest longing for us and for your precious world.

[time for individual prayers]

We pray all of this in the name of Christ, who taught us to pray:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be they name.
Thy kingdom come, they 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.**

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Please use the bread and beverage of your choice

Hymn

“Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above”
Amy Finka, cantor

Charge and Benediction

Closing Voluntary

Prelude I (from 15 Preludes for Organ)

Harold Rohlig

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.

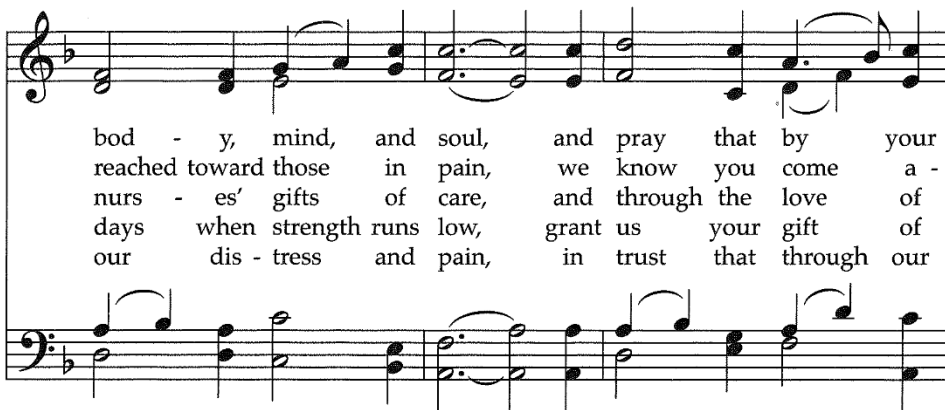
TEXT: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1867, alt.
 MUSIC: Welsh folk melody; arr. *Caniadau y Cyssegr*, 1839

ST. DENIO
 11.11.11.11

We Come to You for Healing, Lord 796



1 We come to you for heal - ing, Lord, of
 2 As once you walked through an - cient streets and
 3 You touch us through phy - si - cians' skills, through
 4 Through nights of pain and wake - ful - ness, through
 5 We come to you, O lov - ing Lord, in



bod - y, mind, and soul, and pray that by your
 reached toward those in pain, we know you come a -
 nurs - es' gifts of care, and through the love of
 days when strength runs low, grant us your gift of
 our dis - tress and pain, in trust that through our



Spir - it's touch we may a - gain be whole.
 mong us still with power to heal a - gain.
 faith - ful friends who lift our lives in prayer.
 pa - tience, Lord, your calm - ing peace to know.
 nights and days your grace will heal, sus - tain.

Unlike many hymns on the theme of healing, this text appropriately includes the ministry of medical personnel as instruments of God's healing activity. It also acknowledges that illness is not limited to physical symptoms, but involves mental, emotional, and spiritual dimensions.

TEXT: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 2002

MUSIC: American folk melody; arr. Annabel Morris Buchanan, 1938

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LAND OF REST

CM

(alternate harmonization, 691)

645 Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

1 Sing praise to God who reigns a - bove, the God of all
 2 What God's al-might - y power has made God's gra - cious mer -
 3 The Lord is nev - er far a - way, but, through all grief
 4 Thus all my toil - some way a - long I sing a - loud

cre - a - tion, the God of power, the God of love,
 cy keep - eth; by morn - ing glow or eve - ning shade
 dis - tress - ing, an ev - er - pres - ent help and stay,
 thy prais - es, that all may hear the grate - ful song

the God of our sal - va - tion. With
 God's watch - ful eye ne'er sleep - eth. With -
 our peace and joy and bless - ing, as
 my voice un - wea - ried rais - es. Be

heal - ing balm my soul is filled, and ev - ery faith - less
 in the king - dom of God's might, lo! all is just and
 with a moth - er's ten - der hand God gent - ly leads the
 joy - ful in the Lord, my heart; both soul and bod - y,

The regal divine imagery here will not be new to most singers, but some may not expect the third stanza's image of God as mother. Yet it is part of God's self-description in Isaiah 66:13. This Bohemian Brethren tune resembles both Genevan psalm tunes and French folk songs.

TEXT: Johann Jacob Schütz, 1675; trans. Frances Elizabeth Cox, 1864, alt.
 MUSIC: Bohemian Brethren's *Kirchengesang*, 1566; harm. Maurice F. Bell, 1906, alt.

MIT FREUDEN ZART
 8.7.8.7.8.8.7

THANKSGIVING



mur - mur stilled:
all is right:
cho - sen band: to God all praise and glo - ry!
take your part: