

Sunday Worship
December 27, 2020
Presbytery of East Iowa

The Church Gathers to...

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| Prelude | “I Wonder as I Wander” Rebecca Blair, clarinet Jim Bonewald, photographer | John Jacob Niles arr. by Gary Lanier |
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| Welcome | | Heather Hayes |
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| Video | “Those who dream . . . will not keep silent” | <i>A Sanctified Art</i> |
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Praise Almighty God

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| Call to Worship | | The Jennings Household adapted from <i>A Sanctified Art</i> |
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One: Here on the heels of Christmas,

All: We speak of love.

One: We speak of joy.

All: We speak of candle light and fireside.

One: We speak of dreams being fulfilled.

All: We speak of “glorias” and angel choruses.

One: We speak the words, “Do not be afraid.”

All: Here on the heels of Christmas,

We are called to speak, for the world needs a light.

One: A light shines in the darkness, and the darkness does not overcome it.

All: Let us worship and listen. Then, let us speak. Amen.

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| Opening Hymn | “Be Thou My Vision” Alex Gilson, cello; David Bowles-Edward, voice | |
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1 Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art—
thou my best thought, by day or by night;
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

2 Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.
Thou my great Father; thine own may I be,
thou in me dwelling and I one with thee.

3 Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise;
thou mine inheritance, now and always:
thou and thou only first in my heart,
high King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

4 High King of heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven’s joys, O bright heaven’s sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Confess to a Forgiving Creator

Prayer of Confession

Bob Nolan

adapted from *A Sanctified Art*

One: So family of faith, let us pray together our prayer of confession:

All: **God of today and tomorrow, we know that your fingerprints are all over this world.**

And we know that those who dream cannot keep silent. So today we pray, give us eyes to see you. Give us courage to trust you. And give us lips to speak of you in our midst.

Gratefully we pray, Amen

Assurance of Pardon

Bob Nolan

Listen for God's Word

Scripture Reading

Luke 2:22-40 (NRSV)

Marta Pumroy

Sermon

“Bold for God's Glory”

Marta Pumroy

Respond to God's Word

Affirmation of Faith

Heather Hayes and youth from

First Presbyterian Church, Cedar Rapids

adapted from *A Sanctified Art*

One: We believe in telling the story—

All: **The story of a loving and merciful God,**

Who will not let God's people go;

The story of a baby who grew up and changed the world;

The story of our faith.

One: We believe in speaking up—

All: **For our neighbors,**

For the oppressed,

For the overlooked

And marginalized.

One: We believe in speaking out—

All: **Against violence,**

Greed,

Abuse,

Fear,

Scarcity mindset,

And bigotry.

One: We believe in passing the mic—

All: **So that we are not the only ones speaking,**

So that we can lift up the voices of those around us,

So that we too might listen and learn.

One: We believe in the good news of the gospel.

All: **We believe that this good news is too good to keep to ourselves.**

We believe that those who dream cannot keep silent.

One: Speak to us, Holy God.

All: Speak through us, Holy God.

May it be so, amen.

Prayers of the People

Created by PEIA Congregations and Katie Styrt
"Prayers of the People"
Ben Johnston-Krase
Bob Nolan, voice

Lord's Prayer

"Hallowed"
Sarah Hegar, voice
Jennifer Knapp

Offering

Anni Thorn

Invitation

Prayer of Dedication

Doxology

"Old Hundredth"
Matt Bishop, piano

Go to Serve with God's Blessing

Closing Song

"Canticle of the Turning"
Rory Cooney
Julia Andrews, piano; Marie Riechers, voice

1: My soul cries out with a joyful shout
that the God of my heart is great,
And my spirit sings of the wondrous things
that you bring to the one who waits.
You fixed your sight on the servant's plight,
and my weakness you did not spurn,
So from east to west shall my name be blest.
Could the world be about to turn?

Refrain:

My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears,
For the dawn draws near,
And the world is about to turn.
for the food they can never earn;
These are tables spread, ev'ry mouth be fed,
for the world is about to turn. (Refrain)

2: Though I am small, my God, my all,
you work great things in me.
And your mercy will last from the depths of the
past
to the end of the age to be.
Your very name puts the proud to shame,
and those who would for you yearn,
You will show your might, put the strong to flight,
for the world is about to turn. (Refrain)

3: From the halls of power to the fortress tower,
not a stone will be left on stone.
Let the king beware for your justice tears
every tyrant from his throne.
The hungry poor shall weep no more,

4: Though the nations rage from age to age,
we remember who holds us fast:
God's mercy must deliver us
from the conqueror's crushing grasp.
This saving word that our forbears heard
is the promise that holds us bound,
'Til the spear and rod be crushed by God,
who is turning the world around. (Refrain)

Charge and Blessing

Marta Pumroy

Postlude

“For the Beauty of the Earth”
Julia Andrews, Piano

arr. Julia Andrews

NOTES ABOUT THIS SERVICE

Giving Thanks: This service is a collaboration between members of the Congregational Development and Vitality Team and the Mission and Social Justice Team of the Presbytery of East Iowa. Worship leaders include Heather Hayes, Jennifer Jennings, Kerry Jennings, Grace Jennings, Bob Nolan, Marta Pumroy, youth from First Presbyterian Church, Cedar Rapids, and Anni Thorn. Participating musicians include Rebecca Blair, Alex Gilson, David Bowles-Edward, Sarah Hegar, Bob Nolan, Matt Butler, Marie Riechers, and Julia Andrews. Special thanks to Katie Styrt for her work on producing the service, Jim Bonewald for his photography, and to Julia Andrews for administrative and communication support.

Giving Credit: Several elements of today’s service are adapted from *A Sanctified Art*, LLC. an online multimedia resource used by several churches in the presbytery. Through visual art, poetry, liturgy, curriculum, graphic design and more, *A Sanctified Art* seeks “to bring scripture and theological these to life.” Please visit their www.sanctifiedart.org to learn more. Materials used with permission given by the creator.

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