

Sunday Worship

February 21, 2021



First Sunday in Lent



Rev. Raygan Baker

**Welcome! Are you a guest with us, or interested in connecting with us?
Text "New" to 559-425-4050 and fill out the Connect Card.**

Prelude "Wayfarin' Stranger" - arr. C. Curry
Scott Horton, piano

Welcome Rev. Raygan Baker

Call to Worship Liturgist: Melinda Mobley

One: To you, O GOD, we lift up the spirit of our whole selves.

**All: O God, we trust unashamedly in you;
seeking that you be not ashamed of us;**

One: May we begin our Lenten journey together in right relationships;

**All: Teach us. Show us. Guide us in your paths.
Grow us to know your ways more clearly.**

One: You are the God of our salvation and the Sustainer of our common good.

All: For you we wait.

One: May integrity, a clean conscience, and upright living preserve us.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Centering Prayer

Creator God, we come to look for signs of your covenant promises. Like the rainbow days of Noah, we see and know your signs, and hear your voice again directing us to places of preparation and transformation in our lives and in our world. Thank you God, for the signs of your faithfulness that will sustain us through this season of Lent. Amen.

Hymn "When Morning Gilds the Skies"

Scripture Reading Genesis 9:8-17 Liturgist: Melinda Mobley

Time for Discovery

**Draw the circle wide, draw it wider still;
let this be our song — no one stands alone,
standing side by side. Draw the circle wide.**

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Scripture Reading: Mark 1:9-15 Liturgist: Melinda Mobley

Sermon

Begin with Beloved

Hymn

“I Want Jesus to Go with Me”

Sung Call to Prayer

**Lord, listen to your children praying:
Lord send your Spirit in this place.
Lord, listen to your children praying:
Send us love, send us power, send us grace.**

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Prayers of the Church

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 debts,
as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power, and the glory,
forever. Amen.**

Invitation to Generosity

Liturgist: Melinda Mobley

Blessing and Sung Benediction

**Go now in peace, never be afraid;
God will go with you each hour of ev’ry day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true;
know God will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love and show you believe.
Reach out to others so all the world will see
God will be there, watching from above.
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.
Amen. Amen. Amen.**

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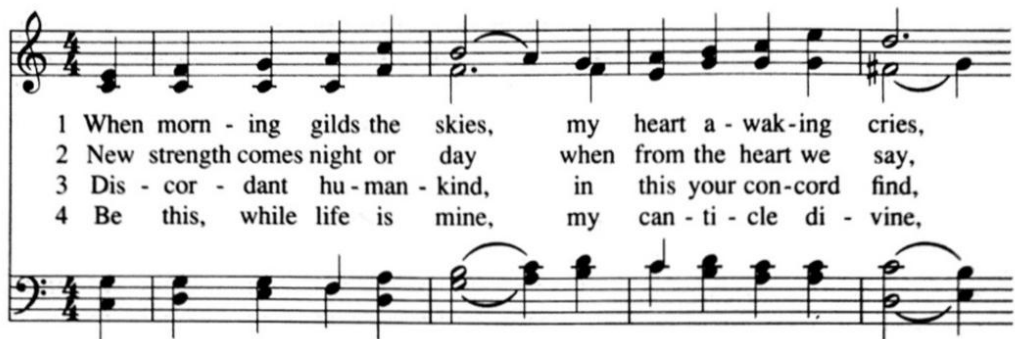
Postlude

**“Afro-Cuban” (In dir ist Freude)
- J.M. Michel**

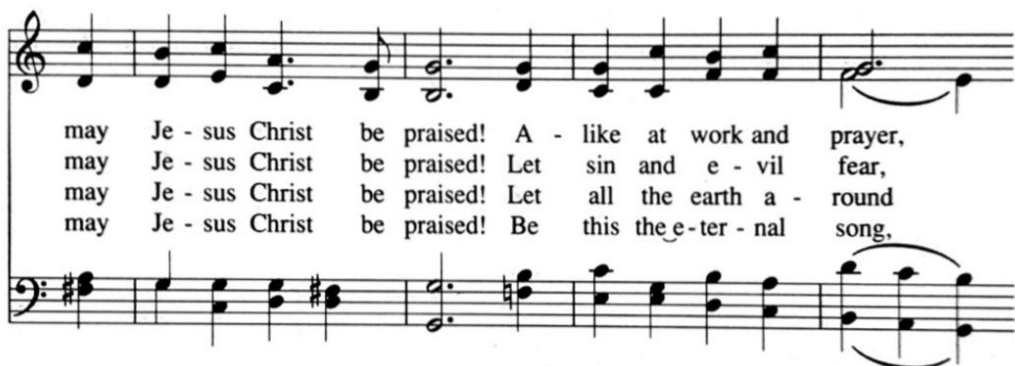
Scott Horton, organ

When Morning Gilds the Skies

Katholisches Gesangbuch, 1828
Transl. Edward Caswall, 1854; alt.



1 When morn - ing gilds the skies, my heart a - wak - ing cries,
2 New strength comes night or day when from the heart we say,
3 Dis - cor - dant hu - man - kind, in this your con - cord find,
4 Be this, while life is mine, my can - ti - cle di - vine,



may Je - sus Christ be praised! A - like at work and prayer,
may Je - sus Christ be praised! Let sin and e - vil fear,
may Je - sus Christ be praised! Let all the earth a - round
may Je - sus Christ be praised! Be this the e - ter - nal song,



one pur - pose I de - clare: may Je - sus Christ be praised!
when this sweet chant they hear: may Je - sus Christ be praised!
ring joy - ous with the sound: may Je - sus Christ be praised!
through all the a - ges long: may Je - sus Christ be praised!

This anonymous German Catholic hymn was translated to English by Edward Caswall, an Anglican—and later, Roman Catholic—priest. Among the scripture references is Psalm 5:3, "O God, in the morning you hear my voice. . . ."

Tune: LAUDES DOMINI 6.6.6.6.6.6.
Joseph Barnby, 1868

I Want Jesus to Go with Me

African-American spiritual, alt.

Unison

1 I want Je - sus to go with me;
 2 In my tri - als, O com - fort me;
 3 When I'm in trou - ble, O stay with me;

I want Je - sus to go with me;
 In my tri - als, O com - fort me;
 When I'm in trou - ble, O stay with me;

All a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,
 When my heart is al - most break - ing,
 When my head is bowed in sor - row,

O I want Je - sus to go with me.
 O I want Je - sus to com - fort me.
 O I want Je - sus to stay with me.

Most spirituals were congregational songs, but such "sorrow songs" as this convey the image of a lone person singing prayerfully to God. The solemnity of this particular spiritual reminds us of the oppression and tragedy with which slavery afflicted so many lives.

Tune: African-American spiritual 8.8.8.9.
 Harm. J. Jefferson Cleveland
 and Verolga Nix, 1981