



The First Presbyterian Church at Caldwell  
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January 16, 2022

Second Sunday after the Epiphany

**REFLECTION**

*"Only great dreams and the sacrificial energy to achieve them can restore our nation to health. Today, we need to ask ourselves as a nation: "What is our dream? What are we living for?" A person and a nation thrive on vision and possibility, not fear and negativity. Here, the prophet calls us to dream, to imagine an alternative reality, and then embody it in daily life. Here Martin Luther King provides a pathway through our current national wilderness."*

*~ The Rev. Dr. Bruce Epperly*

**PRELUDE**

*Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*

arr. Craig Curry

**WORDS OF WELCOME**

**CALL TO WORSHIP & OPENING PRAYER**

Listen! The voice of God is calling to us,

**The reign of God has drawn near!**

Feel it! The Holy Spirit is moving among us,

**The Spirit is leading us toward a new way of life.**

Know it! Jesus is revealing God's ways to us,

**So that we might reveal God's love to the world.**

Come! Worship God, follow Jesus, and trust in the Holy Spirit,

**For God is doing a new thing among us, and we are called to share it with the world.**

**\*\*HYMN No. 769**

*For Everyone Born*

FOR EVERYONE BORN

For everyone born, a place at the table,  
For everyone born, clean water and bread,  
A shelter, a space, a safe place for growing,  
For everyone born, a star overhead,  
And God will delight when we are creators of justice  
And joy, compassion and peace:  
Yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice,  
Justice and joy.

For woman and man, a place at the table,  
Revising the roles, deciding the share,  
With wisdom and grace, dividing the power,  
For woman and man, a system that's fair,  
And God will delight when we are creators of justice  
And joy, compassion and peace:  
Yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice,  
Justice and joy.

For young and for old, a place at the table,  
A voice to be heard, a part in the song,  
The hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled,  
For young and for old, the right to belong,  
And God will delight when we are creators of justice  
And joy, compassion and peace:

Yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice,  
Justice and joy.

For just and unjust, a place at the table,  
Abuser, abused, with need to forgive,  
In anger, in hurt, a mindset of mercy,  
For just and unjust, a new way to live,  
And God will delight when we are creators of justice  
And joy, compassion and peace:  
Yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice,  
Justice and joy.

For everyone born, a place at the table,  
To live without fear, and simply to be,  
To work, to speak out, to witness and worship,  
For everyone born, the right to be free,  
And God will delight when we are creators of justice  
And joy, compassion and peace:  
Yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice,  
Justice and joy.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** *(In Unison)*

**Almighty One, we confess that we don't listen well. We interrupt the work of the Spirit because we think we know better. We half-hear the call of the prophets because living into Your ways of justice is hard. We ignore what Jesus has said because it's easier if we don't follow his ways of love and forgiveness. Forgive us for our selfishness. Forgive us when we choose the easy way out. Forgive us when we don't listen to what You have said, time and again: that we are Your beloved children, and we are called to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with You. In the name of Christ, who has shown us time and again the Way, the Truth, and the Life, we pray. Amen.**

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Jesus is always ready to receive us with open arms. He knows we continue to go astray, but is always waiting, right at our shoulder as we turn back. Jesus knows we still have room to grow, room to change, as long as we have breath and life.

**We receive forgiveness and can extend forgiveness. Christ's grace and love are with us. Amen.**

**\*\*HYMN No. 750**

*Goodness Is Stronger than Evil*

GOODNESS IS STRONGER

Goodness is stronger than evil; Love is stronger than hate;  
Light is stronger than darkness; Life is stronger than death.  
Victory is ours; victory is ours, Through God who loves us.  
Victory is ours; victory is ours, Through God who loves us.

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**OLD TESTAMENT LESSON**

*Isaiah 62:1-5*

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

*Up to the Mountain (MLK Song)*

Patty Griffin

**GOSPEL READING**

*John 2:1-11*

**SERMON**

*A Time to Dream*

Rev. William Schram

**\*\*HYMN No. 69, St. 1 & 2**

*I, the Lord of Sea and Sky*

HERE I AM

I the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.  
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.  
I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.  
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.  
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.  
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?  
Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

## ORDINATION & INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

**\*\*HYMN No. 69, St. 3**

*I, the Lord of Sea and Sky*

HERE I AM

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.  
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.  
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.  
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?  
Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

## JOYS & CONCERNS

### PRAYER & 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 and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**\*\*HYMN No. 834**

*Precious Lord, Take My Hand*

PRECIOUS LORD

*Martin Luther King, Jr.'s last words before he was shot were spoken to Ben Branch, a musician who was to lead the music that night at a fund raiser. They would sing a special song since it was his favorite and Dr. King said, "Ben, play "Precious Lord" in the meeting tonight. Play it real pretty." The hymn was sung at his funeral.*

Precious Lord, take my hand;  
Lead me on, let me stand;  
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.  
Through the storm, through the night,  
Lead me on to the light;  
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

When my way grows drear,  
Precious Lord, linger near;  
When my life is almost gone,  
Hear my cry, hear my call,  
Hold my hand lest I fall;  
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

## **\*\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

*Revive Us Again*

arr. Craig Curry

**\*\*Those who are able may stand**

### **WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS**

Rev. William Schram  
Rev. Barbara Piercy  
Susan Jones & Noel Piercy  
Micki Hardenberg, Soloist & Cantor  
John Lenis, Bass & Jesse Gerbasi, Drums  
Ray Liptak & Rob Thiemann, AV Engineers