



Pilgrim Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
January 9, 2022

Image: John baptizes Jesus, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.
<https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=58027> [retrieved January 3, 2022]. Original source:
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/apmethodist/4354911272>.

Music streamed in today's service

in Dulci Jubilo - JS Bach
Arise, Your Light Is Come - NCH #164**
Angels We Have Heard On High
It Came Upon The Midnight Clear - PH #129
Joy to the World - PH #130
Noel in G - Louis-Claude Daquin

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Today's service will be recorded.

Pilgrim Congregational Church
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January 9, 2022

Prelude in Dulci Jubilo - JS Bach Dot Bowe

Greeting Rev. Reebee Kavich Girash and Sarah Jane Fuller

Passing of the Peace Ed Bond

One: Peace be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us share the peace of Christ with one another.

Call to Worship

Leader: When the storms of life are raging, and the waves of life are crashing, your voice speaks through the storm and your love calms the sea.

Response: Great is the God of justice! God's voice liberates the earth!

Leader: O God, your voice moves across the waters; your tender touch baptizes our economy with mercy.

Response: Great is the God of justice! God's voice liberates our hearts!

Leader: Your voice splinters every yoke! Your strong hand removes every oppression!

Response: Great is the God of justice! God's voice liberates our minds!

Leader: Your voice, O God, speaks in the flame. Your thundering presence shakes the world's systems to ensure all God's children have food to eat.

Response: Great is the God of justice! God's voice liberates our bodies!

Leader: Your voice gives strength to the weary! Your voice brings peace to the nations!

Response: Great is the God of justice! God's voice liberates our world!

Leader: O God, we give you praise! All the earth sings of your liberating love, all creation tells of your righteous acts.

All: Great is the God of justice! God's eternal voice liberates eternally. Amen!

Opening Prayer

Ed Bond

We take refuge in you, O God. We come to you as a people scattered physically but united in your community. Welcome us home. Through your beloved son, remind us of your love and renew our call to serve. Amen.

Opening Hymn - next page

*Opening Hymn - Arise Your Light Is Come - NCH 164

- 1 Arise, your light is come! The Spirit's call obey;
Show forth the glory of your God which shines on you today!
- 2 Arise, your like is come! Fling wide the prison door;
Proclaim the captive's liberty, good tidings to the poor.
- 3 Arise, your light is come! All you in sorrow born,
Bind up the broken-hearted ones and comfort those who mourn.
- 4 Arise, your light is Come! The mountains burst in song!
Rise up like eagles on the wing; God's power will make us strong

164 Arise, Your Light Is Come

Isa. 60:1; 61:1-2; Luke 4:14-21 *Ruth Duck, 1973*

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Arise, Your Light Is Come'. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written in four lines between the staves. The first system covers the first two lines of lyrics, and the second system covers the last two lines. The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with block chords and moving lines.

1 A - rise, your light is come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;
2 A - rise, your light is come! Fling wide the pris - on door;
3 A - rise, your light is come! All you in sor - row born,
4 A - rise, your light is come! The moun-tains burst in song!

Show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day!
Pro - claim the cap-tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.
Bind up the bro-ken - heart-ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
Rise up like ea - gles on the wing; God's power will make us strong.

43:1 But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.

43:2 When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

43:3 For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.

43:4 Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life.

43:5 Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you;

43:6 I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth--

43:7 everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made." 6

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

3:15 As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah,

3:16 John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

3:17 His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

3:21 Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened,

3:22 and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

*Hymn It Came Upon The Midnight Clear - PH 129

1 It came upon the midnight clear, That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold;
“Peace on the earth, good will to From heaven’s all gracious King”
The world in solemn stillness lay To hear the angels sing.

2 Still through the cloven skies they come, With peaceful wings unfurled,
And still their heavenly music floats O’er all the weary world;
Above its sad and lowly plains They bend on hovering wing,
And ever o’er its Babel sounds The blessed angels sing.

3 And ye, beneath life’s crushing load, Whose forms are bending low,
Who toil along the climbing way, With painful steps and slow,
Look now, for glad and golden hours Come swiftly on the wing;
O rest beside the weary road, And hear the angels sing!

4 For lo, the days are hastening on, By prophets bards foretold,
When with the ever-circling years Comes round the age of gold;
When peace shall over all the earth Its ancient splendors fling,
And the whole world send back the song Which now the angels sing.
Amen.

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear 129

Edmund H. Sears, 1810-1876, alt. CAROL C.M.D.
Richard S. Willis, 1879-1900

1 It came up - on the mid-night clear, That glo - rious song of old,
2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come, With peace - ful wings un - furled,
3 And ye, be - neath life's crush - ing load Whose forms are bend - ing low,
4 For lo, the days are hasten - ing on, By proph - et bards fore - told,

From an - gels bend - ing near the earth To touch their harps of gold;
And still their heav - en - ly mu - sic floats O'er all the wea - ry world;
Who toil a - long the climb - ing way, With pain - ful steps and slow,
When with the ev - er - cir - cling years Comes round the age of gold;

“Peace on the earth, good will to men, From heaven's all gra - cious King.”
A - bove its sad and low - ly plains They bend on hover - ing wing,
Look now, for glad and gold - en hours Come swift - ly on the wing;
When peace shall o - ver all the earth Its an - cient splen - dors fling,

The world in sol - emn still - ness lay To hear the an - gels sing,
And ev - er o'er its Ba - bel sounds The bless - ed an - gels sing,
O rest be - side the wea - ry road, And hear the an - gels sing!
And the whole world send back the song Which now the an - gels sing. A men.

Sermon

Rev. Reebee Girash

Prayers of the People

Rev. Reebee Girash

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Reebee Girash

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father (Creator), 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.

Invitation to the Offering.

Offertory

Angels We Have Heard On High
(traditional French Carol with new descant by Zac Girash)

Dot Bowe

* Doxology - #515 Red

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen

or

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below.

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

Prayer of Dedication

Holy One, whose heart abounds with gifts, receive this offering as a sign of our intention to live surrounded by your mercy, inspired by your Spirit, open to the joy of your presence, and generous toward your world. Amen.

*Hymn

Joy to the World - PH #130

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare him room,
And heaven and nature sing, And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

2 Joy to the earth! the Savior reigns: Let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

3 He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness,
and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love. Amen.

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: Let earth re -
 2 Joy to the earth! the Sav - ior reigns: Let men their
 3 He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the

ceive her King; Let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,
 songs em - ploy; While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
 na - tions prove The glo - ries of his right - eous - ness,

And heaven and na - ture sing, And heaven and na - ture
 Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing
 And won - ders of his love, And won - ders of his

And heaven and na - ture sing, And
 Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re -
 And won - ders of his love, And

sing, And heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
 joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 love, And won - ders, won - ders of his love. A - men.

heaven and na - ture sing.
 peat the sound - ing joy,
 won - ders of his love,

Benediction

Rev. Reebee Girash

Postlude

Noel in G - Louis-Claude Daquin

Dot Bowe

A special thank you to **Ed Bond** for being our liturgist today, and to **Zac** and **John Girash** for sharing their music gifts with us.

Source Notes: Living Psalm 29—Baptism of Christ C was written by the Rev. Dr. Ray Jordan.

The prayer of dedication is by Edwin Beers.



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Sunday Worship 10:30 am