

UCH/UCC
ZOOM WORSHIP AT UNITED CHURCH OF HAYWARD,
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
September 25, 2022, (Not So) Ordinary Time

*We are delighted that you chose to worship with us this morning!
Whoever you are, wherever you come from, wherever you are on life's journey, you are
welcome here! –Rev. Jeanne Loveless*

Shining (From the Inside Out)



And suddenly, Jesus' appearance changed from the inside out,
right before their eyes. Sunlight poured from his face.
His clothes were filled with light. -Matthew 17: 1-2

Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate.
Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure.
It is our light, not our darkness that most frightens us...

We are all meant to shine...

We were born to make manifest the glory of God
that is within us.

It's not just in some of us; it's in everyone.
And as we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give
other people permission to do the same.
– Marianne Williamson

I want to believe I am looking into
the white fire of a great mystery.
I want to believe that the imperfections are nothing —
and that the light is everything. -Mary Oliver

The baby bat screamed out in fright, 'Turn on the dark,
I'm afraid of the light!' - Shel Silverstein

We Gather and Give Praise

Prelude: Beau Dream (Candles in Laurie's Zoom Window Will Be Lit)

Welcome: Rev. Jeanne

Passing the Peace of Christ

Pastor: The Peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also, with you.

Lighting the Christ Candle (*Laurie lights candle*)

Invocation/Words of Wisdom: Liturgist (Sam)

Call to Worship

Liturgist: Thank you God for being our “pillar of light and warmth” as we wander the wilderness. We know you like doing new things. But can you please tone it down a little. Sometimes your light is so bright! It is SO scary and honestly. It freaks us out!

Congregation/Jackie: *Thank you Still-Speaking God for being with our ancestors, our children, their children, and with us this morning.
Even when your light is warm and bright (and even scary sometimes) we will praise your Holy Name! (JL)*

Opening Hymn: “Holy, Holy, Holy” #10 Hymns of Truth and Light

(Please mute your mic and sing along as Beau plays)

1) *Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning
our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, Holy, Holy! Merciful and mighty.
God in three persons. Blessed trinity!*

2) *Holy, Holy, Holy, all the saints adore thee,
casting down their golden crowns
around the glassy sea.
Cherubim and Seraphim,*

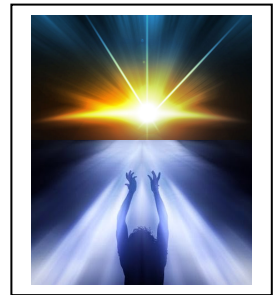
*falling down before thee,
God every living through eternity!*

3) *Holy, Holy, Holy.
Though the darkness hide thee,
though the sinful human eye
they glory may not see,
only thou art holy.
There is none beside thee,
perfect in power, in love, and purity!*

Reading of Preparation *(led by liturgist)*

Blessed are you
*who bear the light
in unbearable times,
who testify
to its endurance
amid the unendurable,
who bear witness
to its persistence
when everything seems
in shadow
and grief.*
Blessed are you
*in whom
the light lives,*

*in whom
the brightness blazes—
your heart
a chapel,
an altar where
in the deepest night
can be seen
the fire that
shines forth in you
in unaccountable faith,
in stubborn hope,
in love that illumines
every broken thing
it finds. -Jan Richardson*



Invitation to Silent Prayer (*Sam leads; Jackie responds for the congregation; sitting in silence, we open ourselves to God*)

Be still and know I am God

Be still and know I am

Be still and know

Be still

Be

Assurance of God's Grace (*given by Rev. Jeanne*)

Gloria Patri: *Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.*

*As it was in the beginning, it is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.*

We Receive God's Living Word

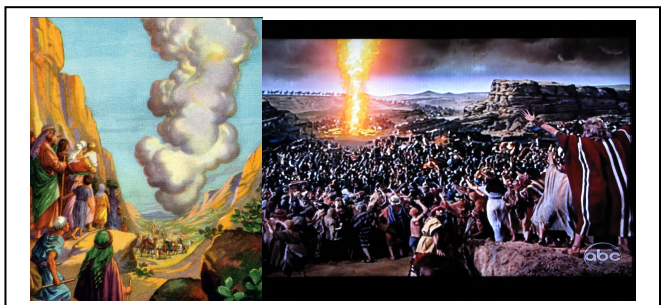
Exodus 13: 17-22 A Pillar of Cloud By Day and Pillar of Light By Night

When Pharaoh let the people go, God did not lead them along the road through the land of the Philistines, though it was shorter. For God said, “If the people face war and struggle, they might change their minds and return to Egypt.” So, God led the people around by the way of the wilderness toward the Red Sea. And the Israelites left the land of Egypt arrayed for battle.

Moses took the bones of Joseph with him because Joseph had made the sons of Israel swear a solemn oath when he said, “God will surely attend to you, and then you must carry my bones with you from this place.”

They set out from Succoth and camped at Etham on the edge of the wilderness. And the LORD went before them in a pillar of cloud to guide their way and provide shade for them by day, and in a pillar of fire to give them warmth and light by night, so that they could travel during the day or night. Neither the pillar of cloud by day nor the pillar of fire by night left its place with the people.

Musical Interlude: Beau Dream



Scripture Readings #2- & 3 You (and I) are the Light of the World

Matthew 5: 14-16 You are the Light of the World

You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead, they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

John 8:12 I am the Light of the World

When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life."

Sermon: "Shining (From the Inside Out)" Rev. Jeanne

Sermon Reflections: Rev. Jeanne and the Beloved Community



Hymn: "I am the Light of the World" #469 Chalice Hymnal.

(Please mute your mic and sing along as Beau plays)

***(Chorus) I am the light of the world!
You people come and follow me!
If you follow and love,
you'll learn the mystery
of what you were meant to do and be.***

*1) When the song of the angels is stilled.
When the star in the sky is gone.
When the magi and the shepherds
have found their way home,
the work of Christmas is begun.*

(Chorus)

*2) To find the lost and lonely one,
to heal the broken soul with love,
to feed the hungry children
with warmth and good food,
to feel the earth below the sky above!*

(Chorus)

*3) To bring hope to everything you do.
To dance at a baby's new birth,
to make music in
an old person's heart,
and sing to the colors of the earth.*

(Chorus)

We Respond in Faith

Prayers of the People: Rev. Jeanne

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever. Amen.

Expressions of Gratitude: The Beloved Community

Gratitude Song: *We cannot give without receiving so much more than we have given.
God's ways are wonderful. God's ways are wonderful.*

Doxology: (sung response)

*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.*

The Prayer of Dedication (unison/Jackie)

*Holy One Thank you for reminding us to Shine from the Inside Out.
We are grateful for you! (JL)*



We Share God's Gifts

Announcements: Roz McCluney

Closing Hymn: "This Little Light of Mine" 364 (Hymns of Truth and Light)

(Please mute your mic and sing along as Beau plays)

Verse 1) This little light of mine. I'm gonna let it shine....

Verse 2) This great joy I have, I'm gonna let it shine...

Verse 3) Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine...

Benediction: Rev. Jeanne

Sung Benediction: "Dona Nobis Pacem" # 335

Worship Inspiration: Marianne Williamson, Jan Richardson, Shel Silverstein, Mary Oliver, New Interpreter's Bible Commentary on John, Matthew, and Exodus, www.textweek.com

Ministers: All Members of UCH

Liturgist: Sam Husby

Worship Team Chair: Laurie Blue

Zoom Altar: Laurie Blue

Announcements: Roz McCluney

Musician: Beau Dream

Choir Director: Dee-Anne Rojas

Zoom Host, Minister & Teacher: Rev. Jeanne

Loveless

(JL) indicates written by Rev. Jeanne Loveless,

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