



## Silent Meditation

Want the change. Be inspired by the flame where everything shines as it disappears.

The artist, when sketching, loves nothing so much as the curve of the body as it turns away.

What locks itself in sameness has congealed.

Is it safer to be gray and numb?

What turns hard becomes rigid and is easily shattered.

Pour yourself out like a fountain.

Flow into the knowledge that what you are seeking finishes often at the start, and, with ending, begins.

Every happiness is the child of a separation it did not think it could survive.  
And Daphne, becoming a laurel, dares you to become the wind.

~ Rainer Maria Rilke

**HOLY COVENANT UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
FIFTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST**

**June 24, 2018**

Gathering Music

Jared Fischer

Welcome and Announcements

Nancy Ellett Allison

One: May the peace of Christ be with you.

**Many: And also with you.**

*(Please pass the information pads so that all worshippers  
might have the opportunity to sign them.)*

Opening Voluntary

Jared Fischer

\* Call to Worship

Suzanne Lamorey

One: We gather in community

**Many: to rest from our labors, to greet our neighbors, to open our  
being to insight and intuition, to worship with heart and  
mind, body and soul.**

One: May we find in our time together inspiration and renewal.

**Many: May we touch the holy in each other, be touched by the  
graciousness of life and the presence of the Holy.**

One: May we find here a calm peacefulness that will carry us through  
the storms ahead.

**Many: We are connected with all that is, may we cherish the earth,  
may we embrace all creation.**

\* Passing of the Peace

Suzanne Lamorey

One: Let us now greet one another as a sign of peace, for the peace  
of Christ is here to stay.

**Many: Thanks be to God!**

*\* All rise in body or spirit   φ Sing Response   ✕ Hymnals located below pews*

\* Hymn 32

“God of the Sparrow God of the Whale”  
(stanzas 1,2,5,6)

ROEDER

God of the spar-row  
God of the whale  
God of the swirl-ing stars  
How does the crea-ture say Awe  
How does the crea-ture say Praise

God of the earth-quake  
God of the storm  
God of the trum-pet blast  
How does the crea-ture cry Woe  
How does the crea-ture cry Save

God of the neigh-bor  
God of the foe  
God of the prun-ing hook  
How does the crea-ture say Love  
How does the crea-ture say Peace

God of the ages  
God near at hand  
God of the loving heart  
How do your children say Joy  
How do your children say Home

**“To You, O God, All Creatures Sing”**

**To you, O God, all creatures sing; Let all the vaults of heav'n now ring.  
Sing your praises, Alleluia!**

**Thou burning sun with golden beam; Thou silver moon with softer  
gleam. Sing your praises, sing your praises, Alleluia!**

**Thou rushing wind that art so strong; Ye clouds that sail in heav'n  
along. Sing your praises, Alleluia!**

**Thou rising morn in praise rejoice; Ye lights of evening find a voice.  
Sing your praises, sing your praises, Alleluia!**

**O crystal waters flowing clear; Make music for thy Lord to hear.  
Sing your praises, Alleluia!**

**Let all things their creator bless And worship God in humbleness.  
Sing your praises, Alleluia!**

**Praise, praise Creator God and Son; And praise the Spirit three in one.  
Sing your praises, sing your praises, Alleluia!**

**Children's Message**

**Nancy Ellett Allison**

*(Following the Children's Message, pre-schoolers go to extended care and  
those in kindergarten through fifth grade to Children's Church.)*

**SOC Annual Meeting Report**

**Lloyd Spencer**

**Hebrew Scripture Lesson**

**Job 38:1-11**

**Lloyd Spencer**

**Then the Living God answered Job out of the whirlwind:**

**‘Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge?**

**Gird up your loins like a man, I will question you, and you shall declare to  
me. ‘Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?**

**Tell me, if you have understanding.**

**Who determined its measurements—surely you know!**

**Or who stretched the line upon it?**

On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone when the morning stars sang together and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy? 'Or who shut in the sea with doors when it burst out from the womb?—when I made the clouds its garment, and thick darkness its swaddling band, and prescribed bounds for it, and set bars and doors, and said, "Thus far shall you come, and no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stopped"?"

One: May we hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Many: Thanks be to God. Open our ears, our hearts, our minds.

Pastoral Prayer

Nancy Ellett Allison

Special Music

"Hear My Cry, O God"

Cesar Franck

*Jared Fischer, piano; Laura Valles, soprano*

Hear my cry, O God, attend unto my prayer  
From the end of the earth will I cry unto Thee

When my heart is overwhelmed, lead me to the Rock that is higher than I.

For Thou hast been a shelter for me and a strong tower from the enemy.

When I cry unto God then shall my enemies turn back;

This I know, for God is for me.

In God will I praise His word, In God I have put my trust.

Let my mouth be fill'd with praise, and with Thy honor all the day. *Amen.*

\* Gospel Lesson

Mark 4:35-41

Donna Collins

When evening had come, Jesus said to the disciples, 'Let us go across to the other side.' And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. A great gale arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. But Jesus was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, 'Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?' He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, 'Peace! Be still!' Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. Jesus said to them, 'Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?' And the disciples were filled with great awe and said to one another, 'Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?'

One: May we hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Many: Thanks be to God. Open our ears, our hearts, our minds.

Sermon

“Through the Storms”

Nancy Ellett Allison

Offertory Invitation

Lloyd Spencer

Offering Music

"Vapor"

by M. and L. Gungor

Oh the vapor of it all, it's a chasing of the wind  
The substance of the form, so pale and thin  
Let the veil of earth be stretched again

Holy / All behold the holy  
Trees clap their hands for you / Oceans, they dance for you

Heaven breathes through humankind  
We can feel the intertwine  
The beauty of it all  
The mystery / The swelling of a voice / A rising sea

Holy / All behold the holy  
Trees clap their hands for you / Oceans, they dance for you  
You are holy / Infinite and holy

A billion suns rise for you / Clouds paint the skies for you  
Mountains stand tall for you / Valleys bow down to you  
Everything rising to / Sing all our songs to you (*Interlude*)

Holy / The impossible and holy  
Kings become fools for you / Kingdoms to ruins for you  
Vapor finds ground in you / Music finds sound in you  
Everything rising (x5) (*Interlude*)

Come like dawn / Like grace / Like sunlight  
Bring this world to life  
Come like rain / Like breath / Like springtime  
Bring this world to life

\* Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

☩ Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God all creatures here below,  
Praise God above all heavenly hosts,  
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.

\* Offertory Dedication

Lloyd Spencer

\* Hymn

“The Earth Is Yours”

M. Gungor

Your voice it thunders, the oaks start twisting  
The forest sounds with cedars breaking  
The waters see you, and start their writhing  
From the depths a song is rising  
Now it's rising from the ground.

Chorus: Holy, holy, holy, holy Lord, the earth is yours and we sing  
Holy, holy, holy, holy Lord, the earth is yours, the earth is yours.

Your voice it thunders, the ground is shaking  
The mighty mountains now are trembling  
Creation sees you and starts composing.  
The fields and trees they start rejoicing

Now it's rising from the ground,  
Now it's rising from the ground.  
Hear us crying out, hear us crying out...

\* Benediction

Nancy Ellett Allison

Postlude

Jared Fischer

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT HOLY COVENANT

### WELCOME TO HOLY COVENANT

We welcome all who worship with us at Holy Covenant. Guests and members, we invite you to sign our friendship pads so that we may have a record of your worshipping with us and be in touch with you during the week. Members, please indicate any changes in your contact information. We invite our visitors and members to linger following worship and join us in light refreshments and conversation.

### A TU LADO - IMMIGRANT ACCOMPANIMENT PROGRAM, JUNE 24, 12:30 PM

Many in Holy Covenant have expressed an interest in learning what the church can do to support immigrant communities in Charlotte. A Tu Lado (*By Your Side*) is an accompaniment program that provides support to recently arrived immigrants. Join us Sunday, June 24, after worship. Contact Cheri Dennis for questions or details, [cdennis2@carolina.rr.com](mailto:cdennis2@carolina.rr.com) or 704-519-6016.

### LOVE OFFERING FOR JARED FISCHER

Jared's final Sunday with us will be July 8 as he moves forward with his plans to pursue a Master's in Music in Choral Conducting. We will celebrate his service at Holy Covenant with a reception following worship. We thank Jared and Caroline for their commitment to Christ, their service to Holy Covenant and their vision for meaningful ministry among us. We will be collecting a Love Offering for them via Jeff Edwards-Knight or Kathi Smith (PayPal Friends & Family option or Venmo- please use [kathleenie53@msn.com](mailto:kathleenie53@msn.com)). Be sure to find a way to express your gratitude to Jared for his service. Bring a card or write a note that we can share with him on July 8 - and be there to celebrate with great music for the day!

### #FAITHWITHFEET CAMPAIGN

Give your faith feet and help Juan go home to Guatemala safely. We need funds to help defray the cost of food, hotel and travel for Juan and Suzanne. Juan's flight is covered, but we need bus fare for Juan's parents (they live several hours away). **Please send donations made out to Holy**

**Covenant and write Guatemala in the memo.** Share with others who you think may be willing to help. Thanks for all the ways you show care and compassion to those in need. Questions? Contact Lisa Cloninger at [lisacmsw@hotmail.com](mailto:lisacmsw@hotmail.com). #FaithwithFeet.

### **RAFTING RETREAT AT YMCA CENTER ~~BLACK MOUNTAIN, AUGUST 10-12**

Everyone welcome! Evening sessions on Friday and Saturday. Sunday morning worship. Saturday Whitewater Rafting (Priced separately). Cost \$130 per adult. SIGN UP TODAY Contact Barbara Schneller, [bschneller@wcupa.edu](mailto:bschneller@wcupa.edu) for information.

### **GOING DEEPER SPIRITUALLY, JUNE 28, 7 PM**

Join us Thursday, June 28 at the home of Kristin Andes and Tom Magraw. Bring a "table blessing" to share with the group that holds meaning for you. It can be one from your own heritage, or one from another culture. Email Anne Findlay-Chamberlain [kahuanne@gmail.com](mailto:kahuanne@gmail.com), Kristin [kjandes@aol.com](mailto:kjandes@aol.com), or Tom [tmagraw@aol.com](mailto:tmagraw@aol.com), by June 26 with questions and to RSVP.

### **ELON HOMES COORDINATOR**

If any person or groups would like to undertake one or more of the following projects for Elon Homes, please contact Lloyd and Gussie Spencer for further information, [lloydspencer@triad.rr.com](mailto:lloydspencer@triad.rr.com). Cookouts; Family meals; Worship services; Bible studies; Sporting or cultural events; Celebrations for major milestones such as birthdays, graduations, resident of the month, etc.; Fitness opportunities.

### **SUMMER MISSION POSSIBILITIES**

Contact Johns River Valley Camps for summer schedule. [www.jrvc.org/get-involved](http://www.jrvc.org/get-involved)

### **ONA RETREAT WITH ANDY LANG, SEPT 13-15 at JRVC**

Andy Lang is the Director of the UCC ONA Coalition. This event is for clergy and lay leaders. Cost is \$150 per person, includes four meals and two night's lodging. Register online at [jrvc.org/your-retreats](http://jrvc.org/your-retreats) by August 31.

## **REFRESHMENTS FOR FELLOWSHIP**

Thank you to all who provide snacks after worship, part of providing our extravagant welcome! To help keep us organized, we are now using an electronic signup for volunteers called **SignUpGenius**. <https://tinyurl.com/hcuccsnacks>

## **WE COULDN'T PROVIDE OUR WARM WELCOME WITHOUT THE HELP OF:**

Elder for June: Kathi Smith, kathleenie53@msn.com or 704-614-7674

Deacons for June: Joe Behr Stenzel, Jim Hong

Greeters: Laura Hankins, Sue Pascucci

Ushers: Shakti Subramanian, Michael Sladek, Eileen Howe

Acolyte: Riley Little

Media: Brian Hankins, Lisa Cloninger

Tabulators: Terry Raley Dennis, Karen Long

Refreshments: South Charlotte Covenant Group

Recyclers: Suzanne Lamorey

## **PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

### **Members**

Susan Bennett Stiles, Gail Bushman, Frank & Charlotte Carbone, Kevin Decker, Linn Finger, Julie Klever, Helen Lambert, Irene Mikkelson, Melissa Noll, Isabelle Reedy Powell, Ed Sharp, Caroline & Don Utz

### **Friends & Family Members**

Ray Adams (Linda Burby), Logan Bayes, Caryn Capps, Baby Girl Cregan (Barb Schneller), Ann Ebright (Julie Klever), Bill Funderburk, Caroline Herdle (Beth Sharp), Alice Huskins (Jared Fischer), George & Judy Jongeling (Darline Warren), Beth Poyer Meyer, Arnold Powers (Mary Jo Powers), Walter Raley (Jean Raley Dennis), Jessie Sharp (Terry Raley-Dennis), Anne Sherrill (Donna Collins), Cynthia & Tommy Simpson, Beckye Neese Smith (Diane Neese), Luz Soto (Aida Marcial), Kathryn Vickery (Ed Vickery), Gary & Wanda Gilbert West (John Rapp)

**HOLY COVENANT UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**Rev. Nancy Ellett Allison, Ph.D., Pastor**

**Rev. Barbara Thomas, Minister for Church & Family Life**

**Mr. Jared Fischer, Director of Music**

**Mrs. Dawn Simmons, Executive Assistant**

**3501 West W.T. Harris Blvd., Charlotte, NC 28269-8510**

**www.holycovenantucc.org office@holycovenantucc.org 704-599-9810**