

Central Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day: June 13, 2021

The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Miriam, Silvia Dimitrova

Gathering Around the Word

Prelude

This Little Light of Mine
Vicki Fey, organ

Arr. Charles Callahan

Welcome and Announcements

Jasiel Hernandez Garcia

Ringling of the Bell

Steve Fey

Call to Worship

Jasiel Hernandez Garcia

The Lord our God is great.

The Lord is worthy of our praise.

Come; let us remember the great things God has done for us.

Let us not neglect to teach our children, and the children of our children the greatness of God.

Let us not forget our past and those who have gone before us.

Let us remember those who have fought for freedom and justice.

Let us lift up our voices in one harmonious song to God,

Let us open our hearts to the Holy Spirit in gratitude.

Let us greet God and one another here in this space.

Let us worship God, our deliverer and redeemer.

Choral Introit

Lift Every Voice and Sing
Chancel Choir

James Weldon Johnson and
J. Rosamond Johnson

Hymn

This Little Light of Mine

LIGHT OF MINE

Janet Abercrombie, Michael Sheldon, vocals | Vicki Fey, keyboard

**This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

**Ev'rywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine.
Ev'rywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine.
Ev'rywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

**Shine, shine, shine, I'm gonna let it shine.
Shine, shine, shine, I'm gonna let it shine.
Shine, shine, shine, I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

Call to Confession

Christian Antwi

Prayer of Confession

Lord, listen to your children praying. [pause]

Lord God, we ask that you look deep inside us and remove any wickedness you may find. May we seek your truth and live in your redeeming love.

Lord, send your Spirit in this place. [pause]

Creator God, break our hearts of stone. Create in us a new one, one that actively seeks to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with You.

Lord, listen to your children praying. [pause]

Eternal God, we stumble in our walk and we grow resistant to your calling us into uncomfortable space. We ask that you continue to walk with us and help us grow in those uncomfortable spaces.

Send us love; send us power; send us grace.

Assurance of Pardon

Passing of the Peace

Response

I Love the Lord, Who Heard My Cry

I LOVE THE LORD

Sheldon Michael, vocals; Vicki Fey, keyboard

I love the Lord, who heard my cry
and pitied every groan.
Long as I live and troubles rise,
I'll hasten to God's throne.

I love the Lord, who heard my cry
and chased my grief away.
O let my heart no more despair
while I have breath to pray.

Proclaiming the Word

Time With Children

Christian Antwi

Scripture

Exodus 15:20-25

Brandon Perkins

Sermon

Making Freedom Sweet

Brandon Perkins

Hymn No. 799, stanzas 1, 3, 4 *I'm Gonna Eat at the Welcome Table*

WELCOME TABLE

Sheldon Michael, Janet Abercrombie, Vocalists

I'm gonna eat at the welcome table;
I'm gonna eat at the welcome table,
Alleluia.

I'm gonna eat at the welcome table;
I'm gonna eat at the welcome table,
Alleluia.

I'm gonna join with sisters, brothers; . . .
Here all the world will find a welcome; . . .

Affirmation of Faith

From "A Brief Statement of Faith 1983"

We believe...

that God has revealed God's self as the one who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people;

that God, in a world full of injustice and en- mity, is in a special way the God of the destitute, the poor and the wronged

(continued next page)

that God calls the church to follow God in this; for God brings justice to the oppressed and gives bread to the hungry;

that God frees the prisoner and restores sight to the blind;

that God supports the downtrodden, protects the stranger, helps orphans and widows and blocks the path of the ungodly;

that the church as the possession of God must stand where the Lord stands, namely against injustice and with the wronged;

that in following Christ the church must witness against all the powerful and privileged who selfishly seek their own interests and thus control and harm others.

Therefore,

We believe that, in obedience to Jesus Christ, its only head, the church is called to confess and to do all these things, even though the authorities and human laws might forbid them and punishment and suffering be the consequence.

Jesus is Lord.

Responding to the Word

Anthem

Deep River
Sheldon Michael, solo

Arr. Harry Burleigh

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Beloved,
our Father and Mother,
in whom is heaven,
hallowed be your name,
followed be your royal way,
done be your will and rule,
throughout the whole creation.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.

In the hurts we absorb from one another,
forgive us.

In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.

From trials too great to endure, spare us.

From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,
Now and forever.
Amen.

Bearing and Following the Word Into the World

Hymn No. 700

I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

BEACH SPRING

Janet Abercrombie and Sheldon Michael, vocals | Vicki Fey, organ

Loaves were broken, words were spoken

**I'm gonna live so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!**

**I'm gonna live so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!**

**I'm gonna work so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!**

**I'm gonna work so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!**

**I'm gonna pray so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!**

**I'm gonna pray so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!**

**I'm gonna sing so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!**

**I'm gonna sing so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!**

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Two Spirituals: Go Down, Moses and I Want to be Ready
Vicki Fey, organ

Arr. Charles Callahan

Worship Notes

We welcome to the pulpit today Rev. **Brandon Perkins**. Brandon is a native of Nashville, TN with over 15 years of ministerial experience. He was educated at Fisk University, Trevecca Nazarene University, and Columbia Theological Seminary. Rev. Perkins is licensed and ordained in the Baptist tradition and has been the youth pastor at Fellowship of Love Church in Fayetteville, Georgia, since 2016. In addition to working in a church Perkins also lives out his calling teaching high school social studies. Most importantly, he is the proud partner of Rev. Sarah Perkins, daughter of Beth Johnson and Pete Paulsen.

Our Guest Vocalist today is **Sheldon Michael**. Sheldon is no stranger to Central having sung with the Chancel Choir in the past. He is now a staff singer at Peachtree Presbyterian Church. Sheldon has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Morehouse College (2013) and a Master of Music degree from Georgia State University (2015). He is always happy to return to Central to sing.

About Today's Confession

Originally published in 1986, *The Confession of Belhar* was written as a protest against a heretical theological stance by the white Dutch Reformed Church that used the Bible and the Confessions to justify the harsh and unjust system of Apartheid in South Africa. This confession was added to the Book of Confessions in 2016 by the 222nd General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) at its meeting in Portland, Oregon.

We will rebroadcast today's worship service this evening at 6:00 p.m. on the CPC website: cpcatlanta.org

To view previous worship services, visit cpcatlanta.org/worship-services/

Please give generously to support Central's work and mission in this time of great need!
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Worship Staff

Peter M. Paulsen, Bridge Interim Pastor

Jasiel Hernandez Garcia, Associate Pastor for Engagement and Mission

P. C. (Buddy) Enniss, Pastor Emeritus

Jennifer Sengin, Interim Choral Director

Vicki Fey, Organist

Michael Morgan, Organist Emeritus

Christian Antwi, Director, Ministries to Children, Youth, and Families

Worship Production Staff

Mark Wallace Maguire, Director of Communications

Dean Hammond, Volunteer Director of Technology [Mark Wallace—that an OK title?]



Acting boldly and compassionately to serve people who
are hungry, oppressed, imprisoned or poor.

Central Presbyterian Church

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549 THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE

Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.
Matthew 5:16

1. This lit - tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine.
 2. Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm gon-na let it shine.
 3. Je - sus gave it to me, I'm gon-na let it shine.

oh

This lit - tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine.
 Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm gon-na let it shine.
 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm gon-na let it shine.

oh

This lit - tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine.
 Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm gon-na let it shine.
 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm gon-na let it shine.

oh oh

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

4. Shine, shine, shine, I'm gonna let it shine....
 5. All in my home, I'm gonna let it shine....

Text: Negro spiritual

Tune: LIGHT OF MINE, 12 12 12 9; Negro spiritual; arr. by Nolan Williams, Jr., b.1969, ©2000, GIA Publications, Inc.

770 I'm Gonna Eat at the Welcome Table

1 I'm gon-na eat at the wel-come ta - ble;
 2 I'm gon-na eat and drink with my Je - sus;
 3 I'm gon-na join with sis - ters, broth - ers;
 4 Here all the world will find a wel - come;
 5 We're gon-na feast on milk and hon - ey;

I'm gon-na eat at the wel-come ta - ble, Al - le - lu - ia.
 I'm gon-na eat and drink with my Je - sus, Al - le - lu - ia.
 I'm gon-na join with sis - ters, broth - ers, Al - le - lu - ia.
 here all the world will find a wel-come, Al - le - lu - ia.
 we're gon-na feast on milk and hon - ey, Al - le - lu - ia.

I'm gon-na eat at the wel-come ta - ble; I'm gon - na
 I'm gon-na eat and drink with my Je - sus; I'm gon - na
 I'm gon-na join with sis - ters, broth - ers; I'm gon - na
 Here all the world will find a wel - come; here all the
 We're gon-na feast on milk and hon - ey; we're gon - na

eat at the wel - come ta - ble, Al - le - lu - ia.
 eat and drink with my Je - sus, Al - le - lu - ia.
 join with sis - ters, broth - ers, Al - le - lu - ia.
 world will find a wel - come, Al - le - lu - ia.
 feast on milk and hon - ey, Al - le - lu - ia.

The image of a great feast showing God's welcome of all people was part of Jewish tradition (Isaiah 25:6-9) and underlies Jesus' parable of the Great Banquet (Luke 14:15-24). Such equality remains as unknown to many people today as it was to the slaves who created this spiritual.

TEXT: African American spiritual, alt.
 MUSIC: African American spiritual; arr. Carl Diton, 1980, alt.
 Music Arr. © 1930, ren. G. Schirmer, Inc.

WELCOME TABLE
 Irregular

700 I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

1 I'm gon-na live so (live so)
 2 I'm gon-na work so (work so)
 3 I'm gon-na pray so (pray so)
 4 I'm gon-na sing so (sing so)

God can use me an - y -
 where, Lord, an - y - time!
 (an - y - time!)
 I'm gon-na
 I'm gon-na
 I'm gon-na
 I'm gon-na

live so (live so)
 work so (work so)
 pray so (pray so)
 sing so (sing so)

God can use me an - y -
 where, Lord,
 (my Lord,) an - y - time!
 (an - y - time!)

This African American spiritual has more depth than may at first appear: for people who are bound in slavery to sing about dedicating themselves to God's use shows a profound awareness of God-given self-worth despite circumstances that would deny their human or spiritual value.

TEXT: African American spiritual
 MUSIC: African American spiritual; arr. Wendell P. Whalum, 1984
 Music Arr. © Estate of Wendell P. Whalum

I'M GONNA LIVE
 Irregular

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