

**CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
3700 Pacific Avenue, Stockton, CA 95204

## **ORDER OF WORSHIP**

Sunday, January 9, 2022  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Christmas



### **PRELUDE**

*When Peace Like a River* [John Carter] 8:30am  
*Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters* [Phillip M. Young] 11:00am

### **WELCOME FROM THE PULPIT**

### **OPENING PRAYER**

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: All creation proclaims the greatness and love of God.

**People: God's love permeates even the deepest darkness.**

Leader: The light of God shines on us with new hope.

**People: We are called to be people of compassion and justice.**

Leader: Open our hearts, O Lord, to see your light and live in your hope.

**People: Prepare us for service to all your people and to this world.**

**All: AMEN.**

### **HYMN**

*Gather Us In*

TFWS #2236

*Here in this place new light is streaming, now is the darkness vanished away,  
see in this space our fears and our dreamings, brought here to you in the light of this day.*

*Gather us in, the lost and forsaken, gather us in, the blind and the lame;  
call to us now and we shall awaken, we shall arise at the sound of our name.*

*We are the young, our lives are a mystery, we are the old who yearn for your face,  
we have been sung throughout all of history, called to be light to the whole human race.*

*Gather us in, the rich and the haughty, gather us in, the proud and the strong;  
give us a heart so meek and so lowly, give us the courage to enter the song.*

*Here we will take the wine and the water, here we will take the bread of new birth,*

*here you shall call your sons and your daughters, call us anew to be salt for the earth.  
Give us to drink the wine of compassion, give us to eat the bread that is you;  
nourish us well and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are true.*

*Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven light years away,  
but here in this place the new light is shining, now is the Kingdom, now is the day.  
Gather us in and hold us forever, gather us in and make us your own;  
gather us in, all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bones.*

**CHILDREN'S TIME** (11:00am)

**HEBREW SCRIPTURE**

Isaiah 43:1-7

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. 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. 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. 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. Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; 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—everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

**ANTHEM** (11:00am)

*Wade in the Water*  
[arr. Roger Emerson]

Chancel Choir

**GOSPEL READING**

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, 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. 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." Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, 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."

Leader: This is the word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

**HYMN**

*I am the Light of the World*  
(see last page for music and words)

**SERMON**

Pastor Mark Cordes

**PRAYER**

## LORD'S PRAYER

Our God 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory forever...Amen.

## WORSHIP WITH TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY *Heaven is Singing for Joy* [Nancy Raabe]

DOXOLOGY *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* UMH #94

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!  
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!  
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!*

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN *How Firm A Foundation* UMH #529

*How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in his excellent word!  
What more can he say than to you he hath said, to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?*

*"Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed, for I am thy God and will still give thee aid;  
I'll strengthen and help thee, and cause thee to stand upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.*

*"When through the deep waters I call thee to go, the rivers of woe shall not thee overflow;  
for I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless, and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.*

*"When through fiery trials thy pathways shall lie, my grace, all-sufficient, shall be thy supply;  
the flame shall not hurt thee; I only design thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.*

*"The soul that on Jesus still leans for repose, I will not, I will not desert to its foes;  
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake, I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake."*

## BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *I've Got Peace Like a River* [Mark Hayes] 8:30am  
*Prelude in C* [Gordon Young] 11:00am

## SERVING YOU TODAY

Mark Cordes, Senior Pastor  
Ric Campero, Choir Director  
Monica Adams, Organist/Pianist

David Campero, Media  
Rupert Cooper, Audio  
Cherie Hudson, Facilities Coordinator

# I Am the Light of the World

[Words & Music by JIM STRATHDEE]

$\text{♩} = 112$   
Intro.

Voice

The musical score is written for voice in a single system. It begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a 4/4 time signature. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 112. The score consists of seven lines of music, each with lyrics underneath. The first line is an introduction. The second line starts at measure 4. The third line starts at measure 8 and includes a 'Fine' marking. The fourth line starts at measure 12. The fifth line starts at measure 15. The sixth line starts at measure 18. The score ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

I am the light of the world!

4  
You peo-ple come and fol-low me! If you fol-low and love, You'll learn the mys-ter-y Of

8 *Fine*  
what you were meant to do and be. \_\_\_\_\_  
1. When the  
2. To  
3. To bring

12  
song of the an - gels is \_\_\_\_\_ stilled, When the star in the sky \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_  
find \_\_\_\_\_ the lost and lone - ly one, \_\_\_\_\_ To heal \_\_\_\_\_ the bro - ken soul of  
hope \_\_\_\_\_ to ev - 'ry task you do. \_\_\_\_\_ To dance at a ba - by's new

15  
gone \_\_\_\_\_ When the kings \_\_\_\_\_ and the shep - herds Have found their way home, The  
love, \_\_\_\_\_ To feed the hun - gry child - ren With warmth and good food, to  
birth, \_\_\_\_\_ To make \_\_\_\_\_ mu - sic in \_\_\_\_\_ An old per - son's heart, And

18  
work \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ Christ - mas is be - gun;  
feel \_\_\_\_\_ the earth be - low the sky a - bove!  
sing \_\_\_\_\_ to the col - ors of the earth!