

**First Congregational Church of Benzonia UCC
February 10, 2019**

WE GATHER

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Joys and Concerns

*Sharing the Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Introit

Call to Worship

Wonderful God! Awesome God! How majestic is your name in all the universe.

Wonderful God! Awesome God! How majestic is your name in all the universe.

Your glory is woven through the fabric of the heavens. Everywhere we turn, below us, beside us, above us, all that we experience is evidence of your presence. Soil, grass, water, sun, moon, and stars, all of them proof of your work in the universe.

Wonderful God! Awesome God! How majestic is your name in all the universe.

We wonder: why do you care about us? What are we compared to the galaxies spread across time and space, or to the amazing worlds of life too small for us to see or to the great animals of land and sea?

Wonderful God! Awesome God! How majestic is your name in all the universe.

You have called us to be caretakers, giving us curiosity and wonder that drive us to explore the entirety of creation from the microscopic worlds of bacteria and atoms to the telescopic worlds orbiting stars billions of miles away.

Wonderful God! Awesome God! How majestic is your name in all the universe.

We are called to care for every life here on earth, and to seek out life that may exist out there in your universe, all life everywhere a part of your sacred work of creation.

Wonderful God! Awesome God! How majestic is your name in all the universe.

*Hymn #239 “Come Down, O Love Divine”

*Gathering Prayer

Praise be to you, O Lord, who spins shining stars across the wondrous heaven and stretches out the seas, who lifts the dawn into place and sets boundaries for night, who awes the earth with storms and gentles it with green, who gives everything a season and breathes life and love into the dust of me. Praise be to you. Praise in all things, for all things; the soft slant of sunlight, the sweat of battle, a song in the wilderness, the evening breeze, the deep breath, the tended wound, mercy, quietness, a friend; for the miracles of the daily, the mysteries of the eternal. Praise be to you. Praise from all creatures, laughter and list-makers, wonders and worriers, poets and plodders and prophets, the wrinkled, the newborn, the whale, and the worm, from all, and from me. Praise, praise be to you for amazing grace.

*Gloria

Glory to the Creator, the Christ, the Holy Spirit, Three in One; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

Anthem “God Has Work for Us to Do”

A Message for the Children of God

WE PROCLAIM

Prayer for Illumination

O God, this is a hard time, a season of confusion, a frantic rush – to fill my closets, my schedule, and my mind, only to find myself empty. Give me hope, Lord, and remind me of your steady power and gracious purposes that I may live fully. Renew my faith that the earth is not destined for dust and darkness, but for frolicking life and deep joy that, being set free from my anxiety for the future, I may take the risks of love today.

Reading of the Scripture
Isaiah 6:1-8 (OT 597)
Luke 5:1-11 (NT 58)

The Message

*Hymn #251 “Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty”

WE RESPOND

Prayers of the People and 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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen,

The Offering

Please sign the red friendship book, pass it along, then return it to its original place.

*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.

*Prayer of Dedication

God of the prophets, we bless this offering as people who have received your gifts of grace and hope. We return to you a portion of the abundance you have given to us. We dedicate all that we give, to your loving purposes. Amen,

WE GO OUT

*Hymn Letter E “Amazing Grace”

*Benediction

*Sung Response “Amen” (*sung three times*)

*Postlude