

January 17, 2021, 10:30am

**The Seasons of Life –Winter**

*Come, captain age,  
With your sea chest full of treasure!  
Under the yellow and wrinkled tarpaulin  
Disclose the carved ivory  
And the sandalwood inlaid with pearl  
Riches of wisdom and years.*

Sarah N. Cleghorn, “Come, Captain Age”

**Welcome and Announcements**

Rev. Tonya Arnesen,  
Senior Pastor

**Bringing in the Light of Christ**

Deacon Greg Lawton

**Prelude**

“Air”  
(Georg Phillip Telemann)

Joel Shaner, Trumpet  
Donna Brooks, Organ

**Call to Worship**

Carole Briggs, Worship Assistant

One: God our Creator and our Provider, on this winter morning we gather here in faith. We meet to hear your voice, to feel your presence, and to know your truth.

**All: We come to sing, to pray, to worship and to listen. We come to know you better and to praise your name.**

One: God our Sustainer and our Redeemer, on this winter morning we gather here in hope. We meet to confess our need, to name our frailty, and to know your forgiveness.

**All: We come to seek, to confess, to name our doubt and our faith. We come to know you better and to rest in your memory.**

One: God our Lord and our King, on this winter morning we gather here in obedience. We meet to declare our allegiance, to reaffirm our commitment, and to heed your call.

**All: We come to discern and to listen. We come to know you better and to live in your righteousness.**

One: God our Friend and our Companion, on this winter morning we gather here in love. We meet to celebrate our community, to share our lives, and to be one in Christ.

**All: We come to express the faith we share. We come to know you better and to celebrate your love. Amen.**

**\*Hymn of Praise**

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

Hymnal No. 140

*Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;  
there is no shadow of turning with thee;  
thou changest not, thy compassing, they fail not;  
as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.*

*Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;  
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

*Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,  
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above  
join with all nature in manifold witness  
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.*

*Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;  
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

*Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;  
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!*

*Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;  
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

## **Unison Prayer**

Carole Briggs

**God of winter, in the midst of this lifeless time remind us that you still live and that you are present in the grey bleak skies; that your Spirit still lives in the coldness of winter. The wonder of your being can be seen in the bare branch and the glistening snow. Be with us as we wait in hope for the greenness of your coming.**

## **First Lesson**

Isaiah 40:28-31

Carole Briggs

## **Silent Prayer**

Deacon Greg Lawton

## **Pastoral Prayer**

## **The 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 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.**

<b>Offertory Invitation</b>		Deacon Greg Lawton
<b>Prayer of Dedication</b>		
<b>Anthem</b>	<b>“Prayer of St. Gregory”</b> (Alan Hovhaness)	Joel Shaner, Trumpet Donna Brooks, Organ
<b>This Season of Life—Winter</b>		Ellen & Barry Keatley
<b>Second Lesson</b>	Psalm 92:1-15	Rev. Tonya Arnesen
<b>The Sermon</b>		Rev.
	<b><i>“Winter-a Time of Waiting and Rest”</i></b>	
<b>*Closing Hymn</b>	<b>“God of the Ages” (vs.1,2,4)</b>	Hymnal No. 698
	<i>God of the ages, whose almighty hand leads forth in beauty all the starry band of shining worlds in splendor through the skies, our grateful songs before thy throne arise.</i>	
	<i>Thy love divine hath led us in the past; in this free land with thee our lot is cast; be thou our ruler, guardian, guide, and stay, thy Word our law, thy paths our chosen way.</i>	
	<i>Refresh thy people on their toilsome way; lead us from night to never ending day; fill all our lives with love and grace divine, and glory, laud, and praise be ever thine.</i>	
<b>Benediction</b>		Rev. Tonya Arnesen
<b>Taking the Hope of Christ Into the World</b>		Deacon Greg Lawton
<b>Postlude</b>	<b>“Allegro Maestoso”</b> (Andre Campra)	Donna Brooks, Organ

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Flowers on the Chancel:

In loving memory of husband, Richard Taylor, given by Claudia Taylor

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Housekeeper/Custodian needed:** First UMC of Jackson has an immediate opening for a qualified, detail-oriented person who will keep our church home clean and tidy. 20-30 hours per week. Competitive wages. The detailed Job Description is on our website. If you, or someone you know, is interested in applying, please call the Church Office, or send Rev. Tonya an email to let her know of your interest.