



Welcome to the Congregational Church on Mercer Island

We strive to be a forward-looking community.

Where God is all-loving and inclusive.

Where people are welcomed and accepted as they are.

Where our minds are nourished as much as our souls.

Where Jesus the healer meets Jesus the revolutionary.

Where together we grow a just and peaceful world.

**ALL HYMNS INCLUDED AT THE END OF THIS
BULLETIN**

Sunday, June 21, 2026, 10:30 a.m.

Prelude

Yuan Zhou

Introit

Somewhere Over the Rainbow

Call to Worship

Rev. Jennifer Castle

Come, beloved of God, exactly as you are.

We come, fearfully and wonderfully made.

We give thanks for the fathers and father figures who have nurtured and guided us.

We come, held in the love that created us.

Come, all who have been welcomed and all who have been turned away.

Here we remember that God's welcome is wide and God's love is for all.

Come, for there is no darkness that can hide us from God.

We gather in the light of divine love and grace.

Let us worship God.

Opening Hymn

#70

God of the Sparrow God of the Whale
(verses 1, 3, 5, & 6)

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Jennifer Castle

Passing of the Peace

Rev. Jennifer Castle

Hymn

#75

I Was There to Hear Your Boring Cry

Reading *Jesus at the Gay Bar* by Jay Hulme

Read by Donna Polehn

He's here in the midst of it -
right at the center of the dance floor,
robes hitched up to His knees
to make it easy to spin.

At some point in the evening
a boy will touch the hem of His robe
and beg to be healed, beg to be
anything other than this;

and He will reach His arms out,
sweat-damp, and weary from dance.
He'll cup this boy's face in His hand
and say,

*my beautiful child
there is nothing in this heart of yours
that ever needs to be healed.*

Reading

Psalm 139: 12-18

Read by Donna Polehn

Even the darkness is not dark to you;
the night is as bright as the day,
for darkness is as light to you.
For it was you who formed my inward parts;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.
Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.
My frame was not hidden from you,
when I was being made in secret,
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.
Your eyes beheld my unformed substance.
In your book were written
all the days that were formed for me,
when none of them as yet existed.
How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God!
How vast is the sum of them!
I try to count them—they are more than the sand;
I come to the end—I am still with you.

Sermon

"Pride, Flags, Rainbows and the Angels"

Buck Rowland

Anthem

Hold Thou My Hand

Prayers

Loving Creator we honor you, and we honor all that you have made. Renew the whole world in the image of your love. Give us what we need for today, and a hunger to see the whole world fed. Strengthen us for what lies ahead; heal us from the hurts of the past; give us courage to follow your call in this moment. For your love is the only power, the only home, the only honor we need, in this world and in the world to come. Amen.

Closing Hymn

#431

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

Blessing

Rev. Jennifer Castle

Upcoming Events:

June 21, noon – Summer Solstice Wild Church

June 28, after service – Land Sale Vote

July 5, 10:30 am – Holy Communion – ALL WELCOME!

July 11, 9:00 am – Women’s Breakfast

July 11, 10:00 am – Summer Celebration

July 15, 8:30 am – Book Talk with Suzanne via Zoom

July 19, after service – Sandwich making for Operation Nightwatch

July 20, 7:00 pm – Council Meeting

PLEASE NOTE THAT CHILDCARE IS AVAILABLE UPSTAIRS

Bring your children up, we’d love to look after them during worship!

To make a gift to the church, scan the QR code below with the camera on your smartphone and you will be directed to the appropriate link on the church website. Thank you!



Pastor

Rev. Jennifer Castle

Music Director

Deeji Killian

Administrator

Janet Morris

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70 God of the Sparrow God of the Whale

Unison

1. God of the spar - row God of the whale
2. God of the earth - quake God of the storm
3. God of the rain - bow God of the cross
4. God of the hun - gry God of the sick
5. God of the neigh - bor God of the foe
6. God of the a - ges God near at hand

1. God of the swirl - ing stars
2. God of the trum - pet blast
3. God of the emp - ty grave
4. God of the prod - i - gal
5. God of the prun - ing hook
6. God of the lov - ing heart

How does the crea - ture say
 How does the crea - ture cry
 How does the crea - ture say
 How does the crea - ture say
 How does the crea - ture say
 How do your chil - dren say

1. Awe
2. Woe
3. Grace
4. Care
5. Love
6. Joy

How does the crea - ture say Praise
 How does the crea - ture cry Save
 How does the crea - ture say Thanks
 How does the crea - ture say Life
 How does the crea - ture say Peace
 How do your chil - dren say Home

* last time

WORDS: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1983
 MUSIC: Carl F. Schalk, 1983

ROEDER
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$\text{♩} = 44-48$

GOD

75 I Was There to Hear Your Boring Cry

Unison

D7 G D G D G D

1. I was there to hear your born - ing cry, I'll be
 3. When you heard the won - der of the word I was
 5. In the mid - dle a - ges of your life, not too
 7. I was there to hear your born - ing cry, I'll be

G D G D G D

there when you are old. I re - joiced the day you
 there to cheer you on; you were raised to praise the
 old, no long - er young, I'll be there to guide you
 there when you are old. I re - joiced the day you

G D G C D7 G *Fine*

were bap - tized, to see your life un - fold.
 liv - ing God, to whom you now be - long.
 through the night, com - plete what I've be - gun.
 were bap - tized, to see your life un - fold.

C G

2. I was there when you were but a child, with a
 4. If you find some - one to share your time and you
 6. When the eve - ning gen - tly clos - es in and you

WORDS and MUSIC: John Ylvisaker, 1985

WATERLIFE
97.96

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♩=92-96

GRACE AND LOVE

Am D G C

faith to suit you well; in a blaze of light you
join your hearts as one, I'll be there to make your
shut your wea - ry eyes, I'll be there as I have

Detailed description: This system of music features a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. The bass line is a simple accompaniment of quarter notes. Chord symbols Am, D, G, and C are placed above the staff.

G A7 D

wan - dered off to find where de - mons dwell.
vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun.
al - ways been with just one more sur - prise.

Detailed description: This system continues the melody and accompaniment. It includes a double bar line at the end. Chord symbols G, A7, and D are placed above the staff.

Go, My Children, with My Blessing 431

1. Go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing, nev - er a - lone;
 2. Go, my chil-dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure,
 3. Go, my chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, clos - er to me;

wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own;
 here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure;
 grow in love and love by serv-ing, joy - ful and free.

in my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have, made you mine for
 here you heard my Son's dear sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his
 Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here his ten - der com - fort

ev - er, go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing you are my own.
 glo - ry, go, my chil-dren, sins for - giv - en at peace and pure.
 stilled you; go, my chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, joy - ful and free.

WORDS: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1983
 MUSIC: Traditional Welsh melody; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams

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