

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC

March 2, 2014

Fourth Sunday in the Season of Epiphany

Epiphany means "showing" or better, "showing up":

*The Light shows up in unexpected (odd, outrageous!) places,
and we open our eyes and say "Oh look! It's God!"*

Those who are able may stand where marked (*).

Gathering Music #138

"Holy Ground"

Welcome and Announcements

Mary Menzies

Opening Prayer

Prelude and Ministry of the Acolyte

Responsive Reading:

Exodus 24:12-18

One: "Come up to me on the mountain," God said,
"and I will give you my law, my commandment,
I will teach you how you will live as my people."

**All: Then Moses went up on the mountain,
and a thick cloud covered the mountain.**

One: The Glory of God settled down on Mount Sinai
and covered it for six days.

**All: On the seventh day God called to Moses
out of the cloud that wrapped the mountain.**

One: The Glory of God was like a devouring fire
on the top of the mountain.

**All: We watched from the safety of our tents below
and Moses stepped into the fiery cloud; and Moses
was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.**

One: O come let us worship.

All: O come let us offer our awe-filled hearts to God!

*Hymn: #104

"O Worship the King"

*Confession:

**Creator God, you made us to enjoy our lives with you,
and we hid from you because we were afraid.**

**Friend Jesus, you lit up our world with your love,
and we crawled into the dark to hide our sin.**

**Holy Spirit, you bring us the fire of holy passion,
and we shake our heads, we shrink our hearts,
we assume the joy is for somebody else.**

**We have turned away from your gifts, dear God, and so we
have added to the pain in the world, our own and everyone
else's. Forgive us, Creator, Friend and Spirit, and give us
another chance to be the bearers of your abundant light in a
dark and lonely world. Amen.**

* Assurance of Pardon with Gloria Patri #813

* A New Creed: Church of Canada (*insert*)

Anthem

"At the Table of the World"

Johengen

A Time for Prayer with the Savior's Prayer ("trespasses")

Worship of God with our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory "We Give You Thanks"

Haas

*Doxology #815 with Offertory Prayer

Scripture:

Matthew 17:1-8

Sermon:

"No One but Jesus Alone"

*Hymn #175

"O Lord, Our Lord"

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

*Hymn #292

"Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne"

*Benediction

*Response: (*back cover*) "Go Now in Peace"

*Ministry of the Acolyte and Postlude