

SERVICE OF THE WORD
Second Sunday after Epiphany – Racial Justice Sunday
January 15, 2023

10:00AM

WELCOME

Lisa Beelle

ORGAN PRELUDE There Is a Balm in Gilead (MLK's favorite)

African-American spiritual, organ setting by Richard T. Proulx (1937-2010)

INTROIT

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Lisa Beelle

In this Epiphany season, may God shine the light of true freedom into our lives and into our world. May that light lead all people to justice, mercy, righteousness, and peace. Let us worship in Spirit and in Truth.

*INVOCATION (in unison)

Holy God, in Jesus, your Beloved Child lived a life of outreach and welcome. His way is not the easy way: it is the right way. Grant us wisdom and courage to follow Jesus' example and to walk his path together. In your holy name we pray. Amen.

*HYMN 628 (blue) Precious Lord, Take My Hand

1. Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn:
through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light:
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

2. When my way grows drear, precious Lord, linger near,
when my life is almost gone,
hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall:
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

3. When the darkness appears and the night draws near,
and the day is past and gone,
at the river I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand:
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Ruth Sanchez

HEBREW SCRIPTURES

Amos 5:21-24

ALL AGES TOGETHER

Jim Lewis

CHORAL ANTHEM Refugee King (Away from the Manger)

PASTORAL PRAYER

Prayer of our Savior

Kathi Dustin

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Interlude

Lisa Beelle

*Doxology

*Dedication of Offering

Adoration

Florence B. Price (1887-1953)

SERMON WITH SCRIPTURE AND MUSIC

Nick Kerr, Brenda Quinn and Ruth Sanchez

Music within Narration to be sung by congregation:

#663 blue Go Down Moses

#371 blue Wade in the Water

#643 blue Swing Lo, Sweet Chariot

Steal Away (choir)

*HYMN 631 (blue) Lift Every Voice and Sing

1. Lift every voice and sing, till earth and heaven ring,
ring with the harmonies of liberty;
let our rejoicing rise high as the listening skies,
let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
let us march on till victory is won.

2. Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod,
felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet
come to the place for which our people sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered;
out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last
where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

3. God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
thou who has brought us thus far on the way;
thou who has by thy might led us into the light,
keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee;
lest our hearts drunk with the wine of world, we forget thee;
shadowed beneath thy hand, may we forever stand,
true to our God, true to our native land.

*COMMISSION

Lisa Beelle

One: As we go out to be the body of Christ in the world,

let us remember the three great loves to which our faith calls us:

ALL: Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind; love your neighbor as yourself; and love and care for the earth and all that dwells therein.

*BENEDICTION

Lisa Beelle

POSTLUDE In Christ There Is No East or West

African-American spiritual, organ setting by Dale Wood (1934-2003)

In Christ there is no East or west, / in him no south or north,
but one great fellowship of love / throughout the whole wide earth.
- John Oxenham (1852-1941), *Pilgrim Hymnal*/No. 415, stanza 11

*You are invited to stand in body or in spirit.

The flowers in the sanctuary are given by Nancy Emery and Eric Schlepffhorst in memory of Ann Kathleen Emery.

AMOS 5:21-24

¹ I hate, I despise your festivals,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.
²² Even though you offer me your burnt-offerings and grain-offerings,
I will not accept them;
and the offerings of well-being of your fattened animals
I will not look upon.
²³ Take away from me the noise of your songs;
I will not listen to the melody of your harps.
²⁴ But let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

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FOLLOW THE DRINKING GOURD

Refrain:
Follow the drinking gourd!
Follow the drinking gourd.
For the old man is a-waiting for to carry you to freedom
If you follow the drinking gourd.

When the sun comes back and the first quail calls,
Follow the drinking gourd.
For the old man is a-waiting for to carry you to freedom
If you follow the drinking gourd.

Interim Pastor The Rev. Dr. Jill H. Small
Ministers The congregation
Deacons of the Month Nan McNicholas and Nick Kerr
Organist David L. Almond
Choir Director Sarah Ames
Coord. of Children and Youth Ministries Trish Walton
Bell Choir Director Mindy Wolfe
Administrative Assistant Margaret Serzans
Newsletter Editor Heather Mitchell
Bookkeeper Kathy Donohoe

The riverbank makes a very good road;
The dead trees will show you the way.
Left foot, peg foot traveling on,
Following the drinking gourd.
Refrain

The river ends between two hills
Follow the drinking gourd;
There's another river on the other side
Follow the drinking gourd.
Refrain

When the great river meets the little river,
Follow the drinking gourd,
For the old man is a-waiting for to carry you to freedom
If you follow the drinking gourd.

- Author unknown, words in Public Domain

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