

CALVARY

United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation



A Spiritual Holy Communion Experience

August 2, 2020

9th Sunday after Pentecost

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Singing Our Way In

Precious Lord UMH 474

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.*

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.*

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.*

Invitation to Holy Presence

Please listen to these [words](#) from Rev. Bernice King as God invites us to be present in community together.

Call to Worship (From Wisdom of Sirach 24: 13-17)

One: The Psalm response is: We are rooted in love.

All: We are rooted in love.

One: Wisdom speaks:
I have taken root in all peoples,
All who belong to God.

All: We are rooted in love.

One: I have grown tall as a cedar on Lebanon,
As a cypress on Mount Hermon.
I have grown tall as a palm in En-Gedi,
As the rose bushes of Jericho,
As a fine olive tree in the field,
As a plane tree beside the water.

All: We are rooted in love.

One: Like cinnamon and precious oils, I yield perfume.
Like choice myrrh, I spread my fragrance,
As the smell of frankincense fills the tent.
I spread by branches like a terebinth,
Luminous and graceful.
I bud forth delights like the vine,
My blossoms are glorious and rich fruit.

All: We are rooted in love.

Opening Hymn: "Lift Every Voice and Sing!" UMH 519

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 fathers sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has been
watered;
we have come, treading our path thru the blood of the
slaughtered,
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 hast brought us thus far on the way;
thou who hast 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 the world, we forget
thee;
shadowed beneath thy hand, may we forever stand,
true to our God, true to our native land.

Passing the Peace

ONE: The peace of God be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

CENTERING

Community Prayer

"For The Senses" by John O'Donohue from *A Book of Blessings*

All: May the touch of your skin register the beauty of the otherness that surrounds you.

May your listening be attuned to the deeper silence where sound is honed to bring distance home.

May the fragrance of a breathing meadow refresh your heart and remind you you are a child of the earth.

And when you partake of food and drink, may your taste quicken to the gift and sweetness that flows from the earth.

May your inner eye see through the surfaces and glean the real presence of everything that meets you.

May your soul beautify the desire of your eyes that you might glimpse the infinity that hides in the simple sights that seem worn to your usual eyes. Amen.

Silent Prayer

Special Music

"Hold On, Just a Little While Longer"/"Grandma's Hands"

Scripture Lesson:

New Testament 2 Corinthians 9: 10-15 (Nancy Connors)

A Reading from Paul's 2nd Letter to the Corinthians 9: 10-15

The generous God who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for the food, will supply and multiply your seed and increase the harvest of your righteousness.

You are being enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us. Your ministry, your gift to the poor saints in Jerusalem, not only supplies their needs but overflows into many acts of thanksgiving to God.

Through the witness of this ministry, you glorify God. In this ministry, you live the essence of the Gospel. The generosity of your contribution to these saints - and to all others - brings the surpassing grace of God upon you even as the recipients of your generosity long for you and pray for you. Your ministry to the poor is God's indescribable gift to you.

The Word of the Apostle Paul.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Choral Alleluia

Gospel:

One: A Reading from The Gospel attributed to Matthew Chapter 14 verses 13-21.

All: Glory to you, O God.

When Jesus heard that John the Baptizer had been beheaded at Herod's banquet, and how it had taken

place, he took a boat and withdrew to a deserted place by himself. Hearing of Jesus' whereabouts, the crowds followed him on foot from the towns. When Jesus went ashore, he saw the great crowd and he had compassion for them and cured those who were sick.

When evening came, the disciples came to Jesus and said, "This is a deserted place, and it's getting late. Send the crowds away so they can go into the villages and buy food for themselves."

Jesus responded "They needn't go away. You give them something to eat." The disciples replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." Jesus said, "Bring the loaves and fish to me." Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, Jesus looked to the heavens, blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples. The disciples then gave them to the crowds. All ate and were filled. The disciples gathered what was left of the broken pieces of bread, twelve baskets full. Those who ate were about five thousand men, besides the woman and children.

One: The Gospel of God.

All: Praise to you, Jesus the Christ.

Choral Alleluia

A Spiritual Holy Communion Experience

...

Every time I feel the spirit moving in my heart, I will pray
Every time I feel the spirit moving in my heart, I will pray.

...

One: Let Us Pray

ALL: Guardian of our souls, we pray that you might extend your presence to us. Forgive us for our wrongdoings and mistreatments as we forgive those who have mistreated us as well. We know that this moment of time is difficult for so many. Give us strength to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with your creation that you abide in. Amen.

One: May the Spirit that is present in this water and the Great Guardian encompass you and forgive you of your wrongdoings and mistreatments. May you find comfort in a liberating spirit of Justice and Peace for all. May this moment cause a stir within your soul to do something and when you've done so much, to rest and recuperate so that you can do more to bring God's Kin-dom and God's heart to each and every soul. Amen

...

One: God is present

All: God is here

One: We are present

All: We are here

One: You are invited to a journey

All: What is this journey?

One: A journey of change

All: How long is this journey?

One: It is long.

All: How difficult is this journey?

One: It is almost impossible.

All: How do we start this journey?

...

One: We cry together,

All: Black Lives Matter!

One: We pray together,

All: Black Lives Matter!

One: We sing together,

All: Black Lives Matter!

One: We dance together,

All: Black Lives Matter!

One: We shout together,

All: Black Lives Matter!

...

All: Holy, holy, holy are you O God. You are filled with all the power and might of the universe. Heaven and earth are full of your glory, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our creator who created and is creating still today. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest!

...

One: We remember today the one who washed the feet of the ones who would betray him. Jesus took and provided hospitality to those who would neglect him just a few moments later.

All: We remember Christ who was a servant.

One: We remember today the one who lifted up the cup and said drink from this all of you for this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for money for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink of this wine do this in remembrance of me.

All: We remember Christ who quenched thirst.

One: We remember today the one who lifted up a piece of bread and broke it and gave it to all saying eat from this for this is my body which is given for you. Whenever you eat from this bread do this in remembrance of me.

All: We remember Christ who fed the hungry.

One: We remember today the one who made a difference in the lives of many as this movement of the spirits is making a difference in the lives Of many people of color that have been targeted that have been profile that have been hurt because of a lack of justice. Jesus spoke up about a need for justice Jesus spoke up when people were not treated fairly. Jesus spoke up when all the others were silent. We want to speak up. We want to join in this journey together with all of those that are marching towards the future.

...

One: We proclaim the mystery of faith:

**All: Christ has Died
Christ is Risen
Christ will Come Again**

...

All: Loving God, here and everywhere, help us proclaim your values and bring in your New World. Supply us our day-to-day needs. Forgive us for wounding you, while we forgive those who wound us. Give us courage to meet life's trials and deal with evil's power.

...

(Following Communion)

One: Let us Pray:

All: Empathetic Heart, Glowing Spirit, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious body and blood of your child, Jesus Christ. Send us from this place, from this virtual spiritual abode, with patience, with love, with grace. Glowing Spirit, Light the way to share these gifts and the Love of God with all we meet. Give us strength to walk the walk you lead us to! All this we ask in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Hymn of Response: "Here I Am, Lord" UMH 593

SHARING

Prayers of the People / Joys and Concerns

"Thanks be to God" or "God, hear our prayer"

Prayer Response

"Move Me"

Move Me, Move Me
Move Me to Do Thy Will
Move Me, Move Me

Move Me to Do Thy Will

ENGAGING

Closing hymn: "We Shall Overcome" (UMH 533)

1 We shall overcome, we shall overcome,
we shall overcome someday!
Oh, deep in my heart I do believe
we shall overcome someday!

2 We'll walk hand in hand.

3 We shall all be free.

4 We shall live in peace.

5 The Lord will see us through.

Benediction and Blessing

Singing Our Way Out: "Let the Church Say Amen"

Let the church say, "Amen" (*repeat*)

God has spoken, let the church say, "Amen"

Go in Peace ... Live in Peace

*The service has ended. Our service to the community of West
Philadelphia and the world continues!*

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at the corner of spirituality & justice*

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RECONCILING MINISTRIES NETWORK

