

A Service for Worship

Day of Christ the King ~ November 22, 2020 ~ 11:00am
Facing Racism: A Vision of God's Intercultural Community



Preparation for worship:

Let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream. Amos 5:24

This fall a group of us spent six weeks in study and conversation about a very near, real and difficult subject: Facing Racism. Although it is hard to talk about, we were committed to speaking with honesty and listening with our hearts. We explored biblical teachings about the goodness, dignity, and diversity of humankind, and we read prophetic calls for justice and compassion. What does it mean for us to live together in community? We share our hopes and prayers with you today.

On this day of Christ the King, we acknowledge the reign of Christ, a vision that is more expansive than we can imagine. We confess:

In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. +

All our class members contributed to writing this morning's liturgy. Let us worship God!

Rick and Sally Barton, Laura Cacchione, Pat and Kate de Barros, Jennie Bryan, Deward and Dottie Douglas, Judy Geck, Marv and Dorothy Gelb, Gail Hedgecock, Karen Holbrook, Jim and Nancy Kessel, Joe and Maggie Lhotsky, Doug and Carol Morrill, Karen Rife, Monica Savidge, Todd and Carol Snyder, Mary and John Vernon, with Joanna Hipp and Ann Jahnes

+ From A Brief Statement of Faith, Presbyterian Church (USA)

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GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Greetings

Chimes of the Trinity

Gathering Music

“Shall We Gather at the River”

“I Saw A River Flowing”

Words of Preparation

Hymn of Praise

“Rejoice, the Lord is King!”

Rejoice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King adore!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing, and triumph evermore.
Lift up your heart; lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Our Savior, Jesus, reigns, the God of truth and love;
when he had purged our stains, he took his seat above.
Lift up your heart; lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

His kingdom cannot fail; he rules o’er earth and heaven;
the keys of death and hell are to our Jesus given.
Lift up your heart; lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Rejoice in glorious hope! For Christ, the Judge, shall come
and gather all the saints to their eternal home.
Lift up your heart; lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Welcome

Opening Prayer

Time for silent prayer

Prayer for God’s Help

Assurance of God’s Presence and Peace

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

New Testament Lesson Matthew 25:31-46

Old Testament Lesson Ezekiel 34:11-24

Sermon “Failure Is Not an Option”

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Invitation to Offering

Offering Music “On the Blue Ridge”

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Affirmation of Faith

By God's grace, we will be an attentive church.

We commit ourselves anew to listen for God's Word in Holy Scripture, in our rich heritage, in faithful witness, and in the fresh winds of the Holy Spirit so that we might discover God's way for us.

By God's grace, we will be an inclusive church.

We commit ourselves to be a church for all people and in Christ, we celebrate, affirm, and embrace the rich diversity of God's good creation.

By God's grace we will be a responsive church.

We acknowledge that we are far less inclusive than we are called to be. We acknowledge that we sometimes find it difficult to accept the gifts that others bring. We acknowledge that the world in which we live is far more diverse than we have hitherto imagined.

So we commit to reach out into the world and lovingly invite all to Christ.

We commit to seek to be open to those gifts, affirm them, learn from them, and at the leading of the Holy Spirit be transformed by them.

We commit ourselves to be a church of justice and mercy and peace so that lives may be renewed, spirits revived, and worlds transformed.

By God's grace, we will be a supportive church. We envision a world wherein "justice will flow down like mighty waters." Therefore, we will stand alongside those who hurt so that the hungry may be fed, the excluded embraced and the creation renewed. We celebrate this rich diversity, and therefore united in Christ, we reach toward it in the anticipation of God's reign.

*SENDING INTO THE WORLD***Hymn of Sending**

"Your Peace Will Make Us One"

Charge/Blessing**Sharing Signs of Peace**

May the gift of grace and the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

+ + +

Worship Leaders are:

Ann Jahnes, Pastor

Laurie Russ, Director of Music

Kate de Barros, Joe and Maggie Lhotsky, Gail Hedgecock, Laura Cacchione, Jim Kessel,

Marv and Dorothy Gelb, Liturgists

Jennie Bryan, Lucy Hedblom, Courtney Russ, Vocalists

Tech Team: Dennis Falkenstein, Ric Wetzig, Erik Hedblom

The Reverend Jerrod Lowry brings us the Word of God this morning. Reverend Lowry is the General Presbyter and Stated Clerk of our presbytery, the Presbytery of Coastal Carolina. We offer our great gratitude and hands of friendship and welcome. God bless you and your ministry among us!

Copyright information:

“I Saw a River Flowing”

Adam Tice, text

Benjamin Brody, music

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“Your Peace Will Make Us One”

Audrey Assad, text and setting

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“On the Blue Ridge”

Joseph Martin (BMI)

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“Rejoice, the Lord Is King” (Descant)

Sydney Hugo Nicholson

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