



DOWNTOWN

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

"WHEN HANDS REACH OUT

BEYOND DIVIDES...



GOD'S DREAM FOR ALL

SHALL LIVE ANEW..."

Celebration of Worship
Sunday, November 8, 2020
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Prelude When Hands Reach Out Beyond Divides
Tunes from: Southern Harmony (1854) and Ralph Vaughan Williams

*"When hands reach out beyond divides and hope is truly found,
Each chain of hate will fall away and bells of peace shall sound.*

*When fear no longer guides our steps and days of war are done,
God's dream for all shall live anew; our hearts will heal as one.*

*When race and creed blind us no more, a neighbour's face we'll see,
And we shall dance the whole world round, for love will set us free."*

Text: Keri K. Wehlander, 2005

Words of Welcome

Rev. Deb Swift

Chime

Introit

Unity

Moone/Washington

Refrain: "Unity, unity, God, we pray for unity."

Call to Worship

Nancy Brown

(adapted from <https://apcnet.org/2016/11/06/a-prayer-for-election-week/>)

One: These are days of change and uncertainty.

Many: Take courage. Stand firm. I AM with you.

One: These are moments of clarity and decision.

Many: Do not fear. Do not be shaken. Hold fast to what is good.

One: Comfort, comfort ye my people, saith your God.

Many: We gather in your Spirit. We gather in your Light.

We gather in the Oneness of the great I AM.

1. Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art--
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

2. Riches I heed not, nor vain empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance, now and always:
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,
Great God of heaven, my treasure Thou art.

3. Be Thou my wisdom, and Thou my true word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Centering Prayer (unison)

(adapted from <https://apcenet.org/2016/11/06/a-prayer-for-election-week/>)

"Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on us."

You are wider than the widest plains,
deeper than the deepest oceans,
higher than the majestic mountains,
and closer than our very breath.

You are the author of our lives.

You hold all of creation in the palm of your hand,
and yours is the long arc of history.

Transform us in the holiness of your dream;

Center us in your vision of what *can* be;

Birth us in the image of your Son for we long
to be all that you believe that we can be.

"Melt us; mold us; fill us; use us.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on us." Amen.

First Reading

Ephesians 2:14-22
(*Good News Translation*)

Nancy Brown

Music for Reflection

To Sit and Dream

Rosephanye Powell

*"To sit and dream. To sit and read. To sit and learn about the world.
Outside our world of here and now. Outside our world, our problem world.
To dream of vast horizons of the soul, Of dreams made whole, unfettered free.
Help me, help me! All you who are dreamers too.
Help me make our world anew. I reach out my hand to you."
Text from "To You" by Langston Hughes*

Gospel Reading

Matthew 6:7-15

Meditation

"20/20 in 2020"

Rev. Swift

Hymn

Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom

Donna Kasbohm

1. Come and seek the ways of Wisdom, she who danced, when earth was new.
Follow closely what she teaches, for her words are right and true.
Wisdom clears the path to justice, showing us what love must do.
2. Listen to the voice of Wisdom, crying in the market-place.
Hear the Word made flesh among us, full of glory, truth and grace.
When the word takes root and ripens, peace and righteousness embrace.
3. Sister Wisdom, come, assist us; nurture all who seek rebirth.
Spirit-guide and close companion, bring to light our sacred worth.
Free us to become your people, holy friends of God and earth.

Text: Ruth Duck (1993)

Prayers of Healing and Transformation

Rev. Swift

Prayer of Jesus

Our Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Spirit 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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the Spirit, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Closing Hymn

Walk Together Children

Negro Spiritual

Refrain: Walk together children, don't you get weary, (3X)
There's a great camp meeting in the promised land.

We're gonna walk and never tire, walk and never tire, walk and never tire,
There's a great camp meeting in the promised land.

Refrain: Walk together children...

We're gonna count... Refrain.

We're gonna love... Refrain

We're gonna pray... Refrain

Benediction

Rev. Swift

Postlude

A Change is Gonna Come
Alan Jones, soloist

Sam Cooke
Arr. Jay Althouse

Thank you to. . .

Participants: Rev. Deb Swift, Nancy Brown,
Alan Jones, and Lee Wright

Choir Members: Hannah Stokes, Marrlee Burgess, Brenda Tremblay,
Emmalouise St. Amand, Ben Magruder, Mark Darling,
Rob Brown, and Alan Jones.
Jason Cloen, piano

Sound Engineers: Donald Fairman, David McDowell, and Ben Magruder (Choral Music)
Website integration: Mark Anderson

The Downtown Church Staff

The Rev. Dr. Pat Youngdahl,

Senior Pastor

The Rev. Kathryn Kelly,

Associate Pastor

Jackie Griffin, Nursery Coordinator

Mark Anderson, Director of Operations

Joseph Taylor, Maintenance Supervisor

Ed Verna, Maintenance

Moses Nhial, Maintenance

Robert Clement, Maintenance

Dr. Lee S. Wright,

Director of Music Ministry

Jason Cloen, Associate Musician

Alan Jones, Associate Musician

Penny Crudup, Church Secretary

David Mear, Business Manager

Teresa Ward, Bookkeeper

& Receptionist Coordinator

Keisha Betts, Receptionist

Theresa Reddick, Receptionist

Parish Leaders

John DeHority, Bill Mackey, Co-clerks of Session

Joan Mackey, Moderator of Deacons

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