SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
JUNE 19, 2022
11:00 AM

Juneteenth *celebrates the end of slavery in the United States. It is also known as Emancipation Day, Freedom Day, Jubilee Day, Juneteenth Independence Day, and Black Independence Day. On June 19, 1865, Major General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, TX, and announced the end of the Civil War and the end of slavery. Although the Emancipation Proclamation came 2½ years earlier on January 1, 1863, many enslavers continued to hold black people captive after the announcement, so Juneteenth became a symbolic date representing African American freedom.*

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

CHURCH LIFE UPDATE Steven Phlllips

PRELUDE *Steal Away* Arr. S. Phillips

African American spirituals often expressed hidden messages in their texts. This song was used by those who helped lead slaves to freedom, including Harriet Tubman and Nat Turner, as a means of gathering people who were headed to freedom and keeping them unified in their journey.

Steal away, steal away, steal away to Jesus.
The trumpet sounds within-a my soul.
I ain't got long to stay here.

*** CALL TO WORSHIP** from Psalm 145
Janet Olshewsky

I will extol you, my God and King,
and bless your name forever and ever.

Every day I will bless you,
and praise your name forever and ever.

Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;
the Lord's greatness is unsearchable.

One generation shall laud your works to another,
and shall declare your mighty acts.

Let us worship God!

*** HYMN 403** *Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty* UNSER HERRSCHER

Open now thy gates of beauty,
Zion, let me enter there,
where my soul in joyful duty
waits for God who answers prayer;
O how blessed is this place,
filled with solace, light, and grace. *(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)*

Those who are able are invited to stand.

Gracious God, I come before thee;
come thou also unto me;
where we find thee and adore thee,
there a heaven on earth must be;
to my heart O enter thou;
let it be thy temple now.

Speak, O Lord, and I will hear thee;
let thy will be done indeed;
may I undisturbed draw near thee,
while thou dost thy people feed.
Here of life the fountain flows;
here is balm for all our woes.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION Craig Miller

God of grace,
you call into being things that are not,
and change darkness into light.
Yet we confess our resistance
to the changes you would make in us.

Break the control of old habits,
old thought patterns, old doubts, stale religion,
so that the invitation of new life in Jesus Christ
may meet us at every turn.
All things are new in your grace,
and old things pass away.

Break our bondage to familiar things
that keep us back from the life of faith,
and help us to grasp your new life,
which we see and experience

in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(silent prayer)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel;

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Amen.

***RESPONSE OF PRAISE 582** *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me* GLORY TO GOD

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

***THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 8:26-39

SERMON *Wow! . . . I Think* Craig Miller

***HYMN 707** *Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord* Hall

Take thou our minds, dear Lord, we humbly pray;
give us the mind of Christ each passing day;
teach us to know the truth that sets us free;
grant us in all our thoughts to honor thee.

Take thou our hearts, O Christ; they are thine own;
come thou within our souls and claim thy throne;
help us to shed abroad thy deathless love;
use us to make the earth like heaven above.

Take thou our wills, Most High! Hold thou full sway;
have in our inmost souls thy perfect way;
guard thou each sacred hour from selfish ease;
guide thou our ordered lives as thou dost please.

Take thou ourselves, O Lord, heart, mind, and will;
through our surrendered souls thy plans fulfill.
We yield ourselves to thee: time, talents, all;
we hear, and henceforth heed, thy sovereign call.

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** From *A Declaration of Faith*
Janet Olshewsky

In forming his people and sending them into the world
Jesus called individuals to be disciples.
They were to share the joy of his companionship,
to understand and obey his teachings,
and to follow him in life and death.

We confess that Christians today are called to discipleship.
Life shared with Christ and shaped by Christ
is God's undeserved gift to each of us.
It is also God's demand upon every one of us,
never perfectly fulfilled by any of us.

Forgiven by God and supported by brothers and sisters,
we strive to become more faithful and effective
in our daily practice of the Christian life.

ANTHEM *Inscription of Hope* Randall Stroope

I believe in the sun even when it is not shining;
and I believe in love even when there's no one there.
And I believe in God even when God is silent.
I believe through any trial there is always a way.

But sometimes in this suffering and hopeless despair.
My heart cries for shelter, to know Someone's there.
But a voice rises within me saying, "Hold on my child;
I'll give you strength, I'll give you hope.
Just stay a little while."

May there someday be sunshine;
may there someday be happiness;
may there someday be love;
may there someday be peace.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER Craig Miller

Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be 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;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power
and the glory, forever. Amen.

CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP

***HYMN 772** *Live into Hope* TRURO

Live into hope of captives freed,
of sight regained, the end of greed.
The oppressed shall be the first to see
the year of God's own jubilee!

Live into hope! The blind shall see
with insight and with clarity,
removing shades of pride and fear,
a vision of our God brought near.

Live into hope of liberty,
the right to speak, the right to be,
the right to have one's daily bread,
to hear God's word and thus be fed.

Live into hope of captives freed
from chains of fear or want or greed.
God now proclaims our full release
to faith and hope and joy and peace.

***BENEDICTION** Craig Miller

POSTLUDE *Improvisation on Let My People Go* Steven Phillips

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