



June 28, 2020 Online Worship Resource

Call to Worship:

PASTOR: Brothers and sisters, we have come today to worship The One who has been, who is and who will be.

PEOPLE: We come with sorrow, hurt and some of us even with anger for the injustice we have seen or experienced in the past weeks.

PASTOR: Friends, as The Lord told Moses, The Lord is telling us today, "I have heard the cry of my people... I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them and to bring them out to a good and broad land."

PEOPLE: We want to live in that land! But we need to work hard to get there. We ask you O, God, for your wisdom and courage.

PASTOR: The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob... the God of Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., Cesar Chavez, Trayvon Martin and George Floyd... the same God has sent us and blessed us to work for a land of justice and reconciliation.

PEOPLE: Let us Worship God.

Hymn: "Let Us Build A House"

Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live, A place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive. Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace; Here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

REFRAIN: All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

*Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone
To heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face;
Let us bring an end to fear and danger: (Refrain)*

*Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard
And loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words with the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of
grace; Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter: (Refrain)*

Litany of Repentance:

LITURGIST: Dear people of God, our history is marred by oppression, by the enslavement of those who differ from us, and by the forces of racism that attack human dignity. The sin of racism is woven into our lives and our cultures, in small and great ways, in things done and things left undone. As followers of Christ, we reject racism and the oppression of other human beings. In building Christ's beloved community, we must strive to love all people, respect all people, and work for the good of all people. We must stand alongside God's children of every race, language, and culture, and work together as agents of justice, peace, and reconciliation. In the assurance of our forgiveness, let us kneel before God and humbly confess our sins:

LITURGIST: God the Father, you freed your people from slavery in Egypt, yet the legacy of slavery deforms our lives today. PEOPLE: Have mercy on us. God the Son, you prayed that all would be united in your love and service, yet the divisions among us rend your body.

P: Have mercy on us.

L: God the Holy Spirit, you inspire us to live peaceably with all, yet the stain of genocide and internment mars our striving for justice.

P: Have mercy on us.

L: We have harmed one another and the earth through negligence, greed, and self-interest.

P: Have mercy on us.

L: We have failed to condemn discrimination that leads to unrest.

P: Have mercy on us.

L: We have decried violence, while overlooking inequity and frustration from which it rises.

P: Have mercy on us.

L: We have practiced injustice for economic gain and have oppressed others to make a false peace.

P: Have mercy on us.

L: We have sought comfort in advantage for ourselves at the cost of injustice for others.

P: Have mercy on us.

L: We have welcomed solace over conflict and ignored the cries of those harmed by our comfort.

P: Have mercy on us.

L: We have grasped for this world's goods, and been arrogant toward those who have little.

P: Have mercy on us.

L: We have not shared the good things we have been given, and blamed the poor for their poverty.

P: Have mercy on us.

L: We have been fearful and distrustful of those who are different from us.

P: Have mercy on us.

L: We have divided ourselves from others, and refused to listen to or believe their experience.

P: Have mercy on us.

L: We have been indifferent to the pain and suffering of our sisters and brothers.

P: Have mercy on us.

L: We have held in contempt those who need our help, and not loved them with our whole hearts.

P: Have mercy on us.

L: We have been self-satisfied in our privilege, and denied our oppression of others.

P: Have mercy on us.

L: We have preferred order over justice, and isolation over the struggle for peace.

P: Have mercy on us.

L: We have quietly held good intentions, and kept silent the message of reconciliation.

P: Have mercy on us.

L: We have failed to act with courage for the sake of love.

P: Have mercy on us.

LITURGIST: Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord have mercy. May Almighty God have mercy on us, grant us courage and conviction, and strengthen us to love others who are unlike us. May God make us compassionate in our actions and courageous in our works, that we may see Christ's Beloved Community not in some future life, but in our own day. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon:

PASTOR: Sisters and Brothers in Christ...our litany of sins is never far from God's grace and the promise of forgiveness. Through confession, God gives us the capacity to be in right relationship... with God, and with each other. So friends, believe the good news of the Gospel that when we confess, God forgives, even forgets our sin. That is indeed good news. **Thanks be to God.**

Passing the Peace The peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Prayer for Illumination

LITURGIST: Holy God, in the ancient days you spoke through the prophets. Speak to us through them again today. By your Spirit enlighten us; illumine us; inspire us; not for our sakes, but the sake of Jesus Christ and the world he invites us to serve. Amen.

Scripture: Amos 5: 10-24 - The Message Bible Translation - (Eugene Petersen)

10-12 People hate this kind of talk.

Raw truth is never popular.

But here it is, bluntly spoken:

Because you run roughshod over the poor

and take the bread right out of their mouths,

You're never going to move into

the luxury homes you have built.

You're never going to drink wine

from the expensive vineyards you've planted.
I know precisely the extent of your violations,
the enormity of your sins. Appalling!
You bully right-living people,
taking bribes right and left and kicking the poor when they're down.
13 Justice is a lost cause. Evil is epidemic.
Decent people throw up their hands.
Protest and rebuke are useless,
a waste of breath.
14 Seek good and not evil—
and live!
You talk about God, the God-of-the-Angel-Armies,
being your best friend.
Well, live like it,
and maybe it will happen.
15 Hate evil and love good,
then work it out in the public square.
Maybe God, the God-of-the-Angel-Armies,
will notice your remnant and be gracious.
16-17 Now again, my Master's Message, God, God-of-the-Angel-Armies:
"Go out into the streets and lament loudly!
Fill the malls and shops with cries of doom!
Weep loudly, 'Not me! Not us, Not now!'
Empty offices, stores, factories, workplaces.
Enlist everyone in the general lament.
I want to hear it loud and clear when I make my visit."
God's Decree.
18-20 Woe to all of you who want God's Judgment Day!
Why would you want to see God, want him to come?
When God comes, it will be bad news before it's good news,

the worst of times, not the best of times.

*Here's what it's like: A man runs from a lion
right into the jaws of a bear.*

*A woman goes home after a hard day's work
and is raped by a neighbor.*

*At God's coming we face hard reality, not fantasy—
a black cloud with no silver lining.*

21-24 "I can't stand your religious meetings.

I'm fed up with your conferences and conventions.

*I want nothing to do with your religion projects,
your pretentious slogans and goals.*

*I'm sick of your fund-raising schemes,
your public relations and image making.*

I've had all I can take of your noisy ego-music.

When was the last time you sang to me?

Do you know what I want?

I want justice—oceans of it.

I want fairness—rivers of it.

That's what I want. That's all I want.

Liturgist: This is the Word of the Lord

P: Thanks Be To God.

Sermon: Keep Moving the Needle - Rev. Gene Kendall Jr.

Hymn: "We Shall Overcome"

We shall overcome, we shall overcome; we shall overcome some day. (Refrain)

*Refrain: O, deep in my heart I do believe, we shall overcome someday! We'll
walk hand in hand... We shall live in peace....*

Prayer of Dedication

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

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. Communion of the People

Benediction

God be with you till we meet again; when life's perils thick confound you, put unfailing arms around you: God be with you till we meet again.

SERMON (Zoom)TALK BACK AT 11:00.

Click below for the link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86529360161?pwd=Qnh2dHZQQ25mUTBGdGEydTVnVDFjUT09>

Meeting ID: 865-2936-0161

Meeting Password: 650873

ALSO - here is a phone number you can use to dial in:

1-301 715-8592 US (Germantown)

Meeting ID: 613 176 6679