



Silent Meditation

**Just as God is our Father, so God is also our Mother.
And He showed me this truth in all things, but especially in those
sweet words when He says: "It is I".**

***As if to say, I am the power and the Goodness of the Father, I am
the Wisdom of the Mother, I am the Light and the Grace which is
blessed love, I am the Trinity, I am the Unity, I am the supreme
Goodness of all kind of things, I am the One who makes you love, I
am the One who makes you desire, I am the never-ending
fulfilment of all true desires. (...)***

**Our highest Father, God Almighty, who is 'Being', has always
known us and loved us:**

Julian of Norwich 1342

HOLY COVENANT UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
FOURTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

June 17, 2018

Gathering Music

Jared Fischer

Welcome and Announcements

Nancy Ellett Allison

One: May the peace of Christ be with you.

Many: And also with you.

*(Please pass the information pads so that all worshippers
might have the opportunity to sign them.)*

Opening Voluntary

Jared Fischer

* Call to Worship

Kevin Decker

One: One: Father of us all, Mother of each one, thank you for your
love of us from the beginning of time.

**Many: You formed us in our mother's womb and lovingly knit us
together.**

One: Your love has not failed us. Your care has surrounded us always.

Many: Your strength and beauty is in all creation.

One: Your gentleness and tender grace and mercy surrounds us
always.

Many: With hearts and voices we praise and worship You.

One: Father, Mother, Creator, Redeemer God, we wait for the new
thing you will do among us this day

Many: Praise be to God now and always. Amen.

* Passing of the Peace

Kevin Decker

One: Let us now greet one another as a sign of peace, for the peace
of Christ is here to stay.

Many: Thanks be to God!

* All rise in body or spirit ☩ Sing Response ✕ Hymnals located below pews

1. There’s a wide-ness in God’s mer-cy,
like the wide-ness of the sea;
there’s a kind-ness in God’s jus-tice,
which is more than lib-er-ty.
There’s no place where earth-ly sor-rows
are more felt than in God’s heaven;
there’s no place where earth-ly fail-ings
have such kind-ly judg-ment given.

2. For the love of God is broad-er
than the mea-sures of our minds;
and the heart of the E-ter-nal
is most won-der-ful-ly kind.
If our love were but more faith-ful,
we would glad-ly trust God’s word;
and our lives would show thanks-giv-ing
for the good-ness of our God.

“Breathing the Breath”

We have nothing to give, that didn't first come from Your hands
We have nothing to offer You which You did not provide.
Every good, perfect gift comes from Your kind and gracious heart,
And all we do is give back to You what always has been Yours.

Chorus: We are breathing the breath that You gave us to breath;
To worship You, to worship You. And we're singing these songs
With the very same breath, to worship You, to worship You.

Who has given to You, that it should be paid back to them?
Who has given to You, as if You needed anything?
From You, and to You, and through You, come all things, O God
And all we do is give back to You what always has been Yours.

Meditation:

We are breathing the breath, that You gave us to breathe.

Children's Message

Barbara Thomas

(Following the Children's Message, pre-schoolers go to extended care and those in kindergarten through fifth grade to Children's Church.)

Epistle Lesson

1 John 2:28, 3:2

Nancy Ellett Allison

And now, little children, abide in the Son, so that when he is revealed we may have confidence and not be put to shame before him at his coming. If you know that he is righteous, you may be sure that everyone who does right has been born of him. See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is.

One: May we hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Many: Thanks be to God. Open our ears, our hearts, our minds.

Pastoral Prayer

Nancy Ellett Allison

Special Music

“Après un Rêve”

Gabriel Fauré

Jared Fischer, piano; Bill Tyler, french horn

* Gospel Lesson

John 14:18-24

Cheryl Milam

(Jesus said to his disciples:) ‘I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.’ Judas (not Iscariot) said to him, ‘Lord, how is it that you will reveal yourself to us, and not to the world?’ Jesus answered him, ‘Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

One: May we hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Many: Thanks be to God. Open our ears, our hearts, our minds.

Sermon

“Family Legacy”

Barbara Thomas

Offertory Invitation

Nancy Ellett Allison

Offering Music

“Heart Won’t Stop”

J. M. McMillan

There is not a human nor a beast / Nothing on the land or underneath
Oh nothing that could ever come between / The love You have for me

I could lay my head in Sheol / I could make my bed
At the bottom of darkness deep
Oh but there is not a place I could escape You

Chorus: Your heart won't stop, coming after me
Your heart won't stop, coming after me
Your heart won't stop, coming after me, coming after me.

There is not an angel of the stars / There is not a devil in the dark
Oh nothing that could change the way You are
The love You have for me

I could lay my head in Sheol / I could make my bed
At the bottom of darkness deep
Oh but there is not a place I could escape You. (*Chorus*)

I could lay my head in Sheol / I could make my bed
At the bottom of darkness deep
Oh but there is not a place I could escape You. (*Chorus*)

* Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

φ Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below,
Praise God above all heavenly hosts,
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.

* Offertory Dedication

Nancy Ellett Allison

* Hymn 473

“Blessed Assurance”

ASSURANCE

1. Bless-ed assurance, Je-sus is mine!
O what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God,
Born of the Spir-it, washed in Christ's blood.

Refrain: This is my sto-ry, this is my song
Prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long;
This is my sto-ry, this is my song,
Prais-ing my Sav-ior all ne day long.

2. Per-fect sub-mis-sion, perfect de-light!
Vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
An-gels de-scend-ing, bring from a-bove
Echoes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love. *Refrain:*

3. Perfect submis-sion, all is at rest,
I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blessed;
Watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove,
Filled with God's good-ness, lost in Christ's love. *Refrain:*

* Benediction

Barbara Thomas

* Benediction Response 581

WORLD PEACE PRAYER

φ Lead us from death to life, from falsehood to truth,
From despair to hope, from fear to trust,
Lead us from hate to love, from war to peace;
Let peace fill our hearts, let peace fill our world,
Let peace fill our universe.

Postlude

Jared Fischer

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT HOLY COVENANT

WELCOME TO HOLY COVENANT

We welcome all who worship with us at Holy Covenant. Guests and members, we invite you to sign our friendship pads so that we may have a record of your worshipping with us and be in touch with you during the week. Members, please indicate any changes in your contact information. We invite our visitors and members to linger following worship and join us in light refreshments and conversation.

"I'M FINE": RESILIENCE STRATEGIES, JUNE 24, 9 AM

The next *I'm Fine* gathering will be June 24, led by Alix Felsing. It will be a resilience workshop and participants will develop resilience strategies that can help them keep and/or regain their equilibrium. All are welcome to join this standalone session. RSVP AlixFelsing@gmail.com or 704-589-2026.

GOING DEEPER SPIRITUALLY, JUNE 28, 7 PM

Join us Thursday, June 28 at the home of Kristin Andes and Tom Magraw. Bring a "table blessing" to share with the group that holds meaning for you. It can be one from your own heritage, or one from another culture. Email Anne Findlay-Chamberlain kahuanne@gmail.com, Kristin kjandes@aol.com, or Tom tmagraw@aol.com, by June 26 with questions and to RSVP.

RAFTING RETREAT AT YMCA CENTER --BLACK MOUNTAIN, AUGUST 10-12 SIGN UP NOW!

Everyone welcome. Evening sessions on Friday and Saturday. Sunday morning worship. Saturday Whitewater Rafting. (Priced separately) Cost \$130 per adult, SIGN UP TODAY!

Contact **Barbara Schneller** or **Rev. Barbara Thomas** for more information.

A TU LADO - IMMIGRANT ACCOMPANIMENT PROGRAM, JUNE 24, 12:30 PM

Many in Holy Covenant have expressed an interest in learning what the church can do to support immigrant communities in Charlotte. A Tu Lado (*By Your Side*) is an accompaniment program that provides support to

recently arrived immigrants. Join us Sunday, June 24, after worship. Contact Cheri Dennis for questions or details, cdennis2@carolina.rr.com or 704-519-6016.

#FaithwithFeet Campaign

Thank you for your positive response to our efforts to help a young immigrant child here in Charlotte. We need funds to help defray the cost of travel for eight year old Juan and his escort, Suzanne Lamorey. Please make donations payable to Holy Covenant and write Guatemala in the memo. Questions? Contact Lisa Cloninger at lisacmsw@hotmail.com.

ELON HOMES PARTNERING WITH FOSTER STUDENTS

The 18-21 y.o. young men in Elon's Village need our help with services as varied as family meals, cookouts, worship services, Bible studies, sporting or cultural events; celebrations for major milestones such as birthdays, graduations, resident of the month, etc. To participate, please contact Lloyd and Gussie Spencer for further information.

REFRESHMENTS FOR FELLOWSHIP

Thank you to all who provide snacks after worship, part of providing our extravagant welcome! To help keep us organized, we are now using an electronic signup for volunteers called **SignUpGenius**. <https://tinyurl.com/hcuccsnacks>

YOGA4ALL AT HOLY COVENANT, WEDNESDAYS 7:30PM

Classes are geared toward inclusivity of all levels of experience and abilities. Questions? Contact David at davidsmith02b@gmail.com

HCUCC BOOK CLUB

The HCUCC book club reading schedule:

July 10 - Discovering the South by *Jennifer Ritterhouse* (Diane Burleson)

We meet on the second Wednesday of the month at 10:30 at SouthPark Christian Church, 6650 Park South Drive, Charlotte. Please join us for thoughtful, lively discussions.

SOJOURNERS CLASS - NOT YOUR TYPICAL SUNDAY SCHOOL

All are welcome to attend at 9:45 in the Conference Room, and no preparation is necessary.

TRAVELING?

Look for the toiletries and amenities collection bin in the gathering room. Bring your unused travel size shampoos, soaps, lotions, shower caps, etc. We'll see they get to those who need them!

WE COULDN'T PROVIDE OUR WARM WELCOME WITHOUT THE HELP OF:

Elder for June: Kathi Smith, kathleenie53@msn.com or 704-614-7674

Deacons for June: Joe Behr Stenzel, Jim Hong

Greeters: Bill Hildebrand, Connie Hildebrand

Ushers: Tom Magraw, Suzanne Lamorey, Jim Hong

Acolyte: Elena Houlihan

Media: Brian Hankins, Debbie Davis, Keith Dennis

Tabulators: Joy Decker, JoAnn Jellison

Refreshments: JoAnn Jellison

Recyclers: Linn Finger

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Members

Susan Bennett Stiles, Renee Brown & Kelly Gimlin, Gail Bushman, Frank & Charlotte Carbone, Kevin Decker, Linn Finger, Julie Klever, Helen Lambert, Irene Mikkelson, Melissa Noll, Isabelle Reedy Powell, Ed Sharp, Caroline & Don Utz

Friends & Family Members

Ray Adams (Linda Burby), Logan Bayes, Caryn Capps, Baby Girl Cregan (Barb Schneller), Ann Ebright (Julie Klever), Bill Funderburk, Caroline Herdle (Beth Sharp), Alice Huskins (Jared Fischer), George & Judy Jongeling (Darline Warren), Beth Poyer Meyer, Walter & Marie Raley (Jean Raley-Dennis), Jessie Sharp (Terry Raley-Dennis), Cynthia & Tommy Simpson, Beckye Neese Smith (Diane Neese), Luz Soto (Aida Marcial), Kathryn Vickery (Ed Vickery), Gary & Wanda Gilbert West (John Rapp)

No matter who you are
or where you are on your journey,
you are welcome here!

HOLY COVENANT UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
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Rev. Barbara Thomas, Minister for Church & Family Life
Mr. Jared Fischer, Director of Music
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