



Silent Meditation

“The church must be reminded that it is not the master or the servant of the state, but rather the conscience of the state. It must be the guide and the critic of the state, and never its tool. If the church does not recapture its prophetic zeal, it will become an irrelevant social club without moral or spiritual authority.”

~ Martin Luther King Jr.

“Everybody can be great...because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love.”

~ Martin Luther King Jr

**HOLY COVENANT UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**

January 19, 2020, 10:55 AM

Please silence cell phones

Gathering Music

“Holy, Holy, Holy”
NICAEA, *arr. Mark Hayes*

Jon Weddell

Welcome and Announcements ☩

Fred Robinson

One: May the peace of the Christ Child be with you.

Many: **And also with you.**

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

Sung Call to Worship “Holy Ground” *Beatty/Davis*

Jon Weddell

☩ **This is holy ground. We're standing on holy ground.
For our God is present and where God is is holy. (2x)**

**We are standing on holy ground,
And I know that there are angels all around.
Let us praise Jesus now.
We are standing in God's presence on holy ground.**

* Call to Worship

Suzanne Lamorey

One: We gather to worship God, who has in love, created each of us.

Many: **Who created us with diverse gifts, abilities, skin colors,
orientations, and passions.**

One: We gather to worship God, who through Jesus has inspired each
of us to embrace life and the call to serve.

Many: **Who invites us to seek justice, to share power, to live in
loving community.**

One: We gather to worship God whose grace and power sustain us.

All: **To God be all glory, honor and praise.**

* Passing of the Peace

Suzanne Lamorey

One: Let us now greet one another as a sign of God's 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*

* Hymn

“Here I Am, Lord”

JM Talbot & D Schutte

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard My people cry.
All who dwell in deepest sin My hand will save.
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear My light to them? Whom shall I send?

Refrain:

Here I am Lord, Is it I, Lord? I have heard You calling in the night.
I will go Lord, if You lead me. I will hold Your people in my heart.

I the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them, my hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide Till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life for them. Whom shall I send? *(Refrain)*

Children’s Offering & Message

Fred Robinson

*(Following the Children’s Message, children below first grade
may go to extended care or return to sit with their parents.)*

MLK Reading *(Excerpt from I Have A Dream)*

Jordan Robinson

As we walk, we must make the pledge that we shall always march ahead. We cannot turn back. There are those who are asking the devotees of civil rights, "When will you be satisfied?" We can never be satisfied as long as the Negro is the victim of the unspeakable horrors of police brutality. We can never be satisfied as long as our bodies, heavy with the fatigue of travel, cannot gain lodging in the motels of the highways and the hotels of the cities. We cannot be satisfied as long as the Negro's basic mobility is from a smaller ghetto to a larger one. We can never be satisfied as long as our children are stripped of their selfhood and robbed of their dignity by signs stating "For Whites Only". We cannot be satisfied as long as a Negro in Mississippi cannot vote and a Negro in New York believes he has nothing for which to vote. No, no, we are not satisfied, and we will not be satisfied until justice rolls down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream.

1. Let justice flow like streams of sparkling water, pure,
Enabling growth, refreshing life, abundant, cleansing sure.
2. Let righteousness roll on as others' cares we heed,
An everflowing stream of faith translated into deed.
3. So may God's plumb line, straight, define our measure true,
And justice, right, and peace pervade this world our whole life through.

Prayers of the People

Fred Robinson

Anthem

“We Are Called”
David Haas

Chancel Choir

1. Come! Live in the light!
Shine with the joy and the love of our God!
We are called to be light for the kingdom,
To live in the freedom of the city of God!

Refrain: **We are called to love tenderly.**
We are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God.

2. Come! Open your heart!
Show your mercy to all those in fear!
We are called to be hope for the hopeless,
So all hatred and blindness will be no more!
3. Sing! Sing a new song!
Sing of that great day when all will be one!
God will reign and we'll walk with each other
As sisters and brothers united in love!

* Gospel Lesson

John 1:29-42

Jeff Edwards-Knight

The next day he saw Jesus coming towards him and declared, 'Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, "After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me." I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.' And John testified, 'I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, "He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit." And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God.'

The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, 'Look, here is the Lamb of God!' The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, 'What are you looking for?' They said to him, 'Rabbi' (which translated means Teacher), 'where are you staying?' He said to them, 'Come and see.' They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' (which is translated Anointed). He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas' (which is translated Peter).

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

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

Listen to me, O coastlands,
pay attention, you peoples from far away!
The Lord called me before I was born,
while I was in my mother's womb he named me.
He made my mouth like a sharp sword,
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;
he made me a polished arrow,
in his quiver he hid me away.
And he said to me, 'You are my servant,
Israel, in whom I will be glorified.'
But I said, 'I have labored in vain,
I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;
yet surely my cause is with the Lord,
and my reward with my God.'

And now the Lord says,
who formed me in the womb to be his servant,
to bring Jacob back to him,
and that Israel might be gathered to him,
for I am honored in the sight of the Lord,
and my God has become my strength— he says,
'It is too light a thing that you should be my servant
to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel;
I will give you as a light to the nations,
that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.'

Thus says the Lord,
the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,
to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations,
the slave of rulers,
'Kings shall see and stand up,
princes, and they shall prostrate themselves,
because of the Lord, who is faithful,
the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.'

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Offertory Invitation Jeff Edwards-Knight

Offertory Music Jon Weddell

* Offertory Dedication Jeff Edwards-Knight

* Doxology OLD HUNDREDTH

☩ 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.

* Hymn 539 "Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant?" SERVANT SONG

1. Won't you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant, too.

2. We are pilgrims on a journey; we are travelers on the road;
We are here to help each other go the mile and bear the load.

3. I will hold the Christ-light for you in the shadow of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.

4. I will weep when you are weeping; when you laugh, I'll laugh with you.
I will share your joy and sorrow till we've seen this journey through.

5. When we sing to God in heaven we shall find such harmony,
Born of all we've known together of Christ's love and agony.

6. Won't you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant, too.

* Benediction Fred Robinson

* Benediction Response 581 WORLD PEACE PRAYER

☩ 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 "Christians We Have met to Worship" Jon Weddell
HOLY MANNA, *arr. Mark Hayes*

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.

HOLY COVENANT TO HOST ROOM IN THE INN, JANUARY 19

HCUCC will again host our yet to be housed neighbors to keep them warm, give them a place to shower, and feed them hot meals. Can you help with this ministry? Check the signup sheets in the Gathering Room...there are many ways you can help to welcome our neighbors in need. Contact Suzanne Lamorey TODAY, suzlam@yahoo.com if you are able to assist.

VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVE

Did you know that only 1 in 5 eligible voters is actually registered to vote? The HCUCC Anti-racist Study Group is organizing voter registration events and invites your participation. Please stop by the Voter Registration table in the Gathering Room to find out how you can *check on your own registration status, *be trained to register others, *plan for a registration event, and *join in registration events with other HC members. Contact Suzanne at suzlam@yahoo for more information.

JACKETS IN JANUARY

We are collecting new/nearly new jackets for chilly children in neighborhood schools who are ages 5 to 10 years old. Please place your contributions in the Kids Box in the Gathering Room from now until the end of February. Contact Suzanne at suzlam@yahoo.com for more information.

RECYCLE RIGHT PRESENTATION, JANUARY 26

Your HCUCC Environmental Team invites everyone to join us in the conference room at 12:30, for an interactive presentation and dialogue with Mecklenburg County Residential Recycling Educator, Jo Nencetti, on how to *Recycle Right*. The program is about 30 minutes, and questions following are welcomed. She has been a sustainability enthusiast for over 20 years and has a strong passion to educate others on reduced consumption and renewable energy. All are welcomed!

TIME OUT YOUTH MEAL, JANUARY 30

Because of a lack of outside providers, HCUCC will be hosting a second family style meal at Time Out Youth Center, Thursday evening, January 30th. Thanks to all who assisted and contributed for the January 16th meal. There is a need for donations (food or funds), and for several volunteers for preparations, serving the meal & interaction with youth for about 1-1.5 hrs. T.O.Y. is a center that supports lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, & questioning Youth in promoting unconditional acceptance & creating space for self-expression. Your support is greatly appreciated! Contact Bob Saylor, 704-239-7342 or bchs3201@aol.com if you are willing to make food, or can serve the meal with us.

ATTENTION RINGERS!

If you are interested in participating in the Holy Covenant bell choir, please let Dawn Robinson know by emailing her at DrRobinson0415@gmail.com. The rehearsal schedule will be determined by the participants.

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HCUCC BOOK CLUB

We always welcome new readers to our meetings! We meet at 10:30 at SouthPark Christian Church, 6650 Park South Drive, Charlotte. Please join us for thoughtful, lively discussions.

12 February - *That Reminds Me* by Rev. H. Linn Finger

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

Elder for January: Tom Magraw, tmagraw@aol.com or 704-614-5405

Deacons for January: JoAnn Jellison, Lisa Sherman

Greeters: Anne Hayes, Lisa Sherman

Ushers: Tom Magraw, Chris Edwards, Suzanne Lamorey, Kelly Gimlin

Media: Brian Hankins, Lisa Cloninger

Tabulators: Alice Phelan, Kelly Gimlin

Refreshments: Alix Felsing, Laura Hankins

Recyclers: Suzanne Lamorey

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Members

Darline Warren and extended family in the death of her brother, Virgil Stewart, and injuries of her brother, Charlie Jongeling; Family & Friends of Donna Collins; Kevin Decker, Linn Finger, Julie Klever, Helen Lambert, Karen Long, Irene Mikkelson, Sue & Bill Pascucci, Isabelle Reedy Powell, Jerry & Marion Rhyne, Deb & Yvette Ross, Mamie Stokes

Friends & Family Members

Jill Coughlin and family in the recent death of her mother.

Andrew Bomely (Martha Bomely), David & Cecelia Griffin (JP Griffin), Faye Grumbles (Linda Clark), Henry Hildebrand (Bill & Connie Hildebrand), Will & Addie May Hong (Jim Hong), Bob Lyon (Melissa Noll), Carolyn Marshall (Linda Clark), Thibault Ossenbühl (Melissa Noll), Roshani Parikh (Nishi Griffin), Renee & Aiden Rohn (Debbie Davis), Colin Spencer (Lloyd & Gussie Spencer), Gene Sullivan (Jason Sullivan), Dorothy Underwood (Keith & Cheri Dennis), Kathryn Vickery (Ed Vickery)

OUR MINISTRY TEAM

Rev. Fred Robinson, Interim Pastor

Mr. Jon Weddell, Accompanist

Mrs. Dawn Simmons, Executive Assistant

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