



## RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY

### Silent Meditation

“Faith has taught me to see the miraculous in everyday life: the miracle of ordinary black women resisting and rising about evil forces in society, where forces work to destroy and subvert the creative power and energy my mother and grandmother taught me God gave black women.”

— Delores Williams

“I am passionate about everything in my life — first and foremost, passionate about ideas. And that's a dangerous person to be in this society, not just because I'm a woman, but because it's such a fundamentally anti-intellectual, anti-critical thinking society.”

— bell hooks

“If the first woman God ever made was strong enough to turn the world upside down all alone, these together ought to be able to turn it back and get it right side up again”

— Sojourner Truth

## **WELCOME GUEST PREACHER REV. DR. CASSANDRA JONES**

Cassandra Aline Jones earned a PhD from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. She is an Associate Minister at Friendship Baptist Church in Charlotte where she serves as the congregation's Spiritual Support Advocate to Ghana through its participation in International Ministries of American Baptist Churches, USA.

A "citizen of the world" through nearly a lifetime of travel, Dr. Jones has a passion for global ministry. Working in cross-cultural ministry for over two decades, she has conducted seminars, taught workshops on leadership and preached to congregations in over 60 countries. Additionally, she has led over 30 short-term mission teams that were able to connect to local communities through creative arts, sports, and other cooperative approaches to ministry. Her passion for equipping churches abroad is best demonstrated in her work as board member for SIM, USA (which began in 1893 as Sudan Interior Mission).

Locally, after serving on the MeckMIN board for over a decade, she continues her service for the organization on several committees. Dr. Jones is a native of San Francisco, CA and has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Spelman College in Atlanta where she majored in Music Performance and English. We are grateful to worship with her on this day.



# HOLY COVENANT UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

## TRANSFIGURATION ~ BLACK HISTORY MONTH

February 14, 2021, 10:55 AM

Prelude	“I Love to Tell the Story” (HANKEY)	arr. M. Hassell
Welcome and Announcements and Offertory Invitation		Fred Robinson
One: May the Spirit of the Living Christ be with you all! Many: And also with you.		
Introit	“Salaam/Peace” (Egypt)	M. Samir
	<i>Salaam, salaam, the peace of God to every race. Salaam, salaam, the peace of God in every place.</i>	
Call to Worship		Melissa McQueen Simmons
One: Arise! Shine! For the Light has come! Many: How brilliant and glorious is our God! One: Arise! Shine! For the Light is here! Many: The Awesome God commands our attention! One: Arise! Shine! Let's worship God in the beauty of holiness! Many: Indeed, in the beauty of love, in justice and mercy for all. One: Let's remember the triumphant stories of Black History and how God is still moving and speaking today. All: Arise! Shine! Give God the glory!		
Song	“Lord, Light a Flame in My Heart”	J. Carter
Oh Lord, light a flame in my heart. (2x) Let me pray a little longer; Let me grow a little stronger, Oh Lord, light a flame in my heart.		
Oh Lord, build an altar in my heart. (2x) Let me lay my life upon it; let me place my talents on it. Oh Lord, build an altar in my heart.		

Oh Lord, come a-calling in my heart. (2x)  
Let me feel your hand upon me; let me know you're working on me.  
Oh Lord, come a-calling in my heart.

Oh Lord, make your home in my heart. (2x)  
Let me tell the world your story; let me sing of hope and glory.  
Oh Lord, make your home in my heart.

Oh Lord, light a flame, Lord, build an altar,  
Oh Lord, make your home in my heart.

Children's Message Cheri Dennis  
*Excerpts from The Youngest Marcher: The Story of Audrey Faye Hendricks*  
*Written by Cynthia Levinson, Illustrated by Vanessa Brantley Newton*

Song "Mayenziwe/Your Will Be Done" (South Africa) J. Bell  
***Mayenziwe 'ntando yakho. (5x)***

Pastoral Prayer Fred Robinson  
Song "Listen, God Is Calling" (Tanzania) NENO LAKE MUNGU  
Listen,  
Listen, God is calling, through the Word inviting,  
Offering forgiveness, comfort, and joy.

Hebrew Scripture Psalm 50:1-6 Cheri Dennis  
The mighty one, God the Lord,  
speaks and summons the earth  
from the rising of the sun to its setting.  
Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty,  
God shines forth.  
Our God comes and does not keep silence,  
before [God] is a devouring fire,  
and a mighty tempest all around [God].  
[God] calls to the heavens above  
and to the earth, that [God] may judge [God's] people:

“Gather to me my faithful ones,  
who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!”  
The heavens declare [God’s] righteousness,  
for God [God’s self] is judge. *Selah*

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

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

Special Music

“Salaam/Peace” (Egypt)

M. Samir

Your peace within us, Lord, will stand, surpassing all we understand.  
Even when fears surround our land, you fill our lives with peace.

*Salaam, salaam, the peace of God to every race.  
Salaam, salaam, the peace of God in every place.*

When walking, we are led astray; your Spirit in us lights the way  
To bring us back and guard our days. You fill our lives with peace.

God’s peace you offered us to live, a peace the world can never give,  
And while your Spirit in us lives, you fill our lives with peace.

Sermonic Text

Ephesians 2:4-10

Dr. Cassandra A. Jones

But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness towards us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

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

“Remembering Who We Are”

Dr. Cassandra A. Jones

Hymn 526

“We Are Walking in the Light of God”

SIYAHAMBA

**Si-ya-hamb' e-ku-kha-nyen' kwen-khos',  
Si-ya-hamb' e-ku-kha-nyen' kwen-khos'. (repeat)**

**Si-ya-ham-ba (ham-ba, si-ya-ham-ba)  
Oh, Si-ya-hamb' e-ku-kha-nyen' kwen-khos'. (repeat)**

**We are walking in the light of God;  
We are walking in the light of God. (repeat)  
We are walking (walking, we are walking)  
Oh, we are walking in the light of God. (repeat)**

**We are singing in the light of God...**

**Si-ya-hamb' e-ku-kha-nyen' kwen-khos'...**

Benediction

Dr. Cassandra A. Jones

Benediction Response

PELO TSO RONA

“Amen, Siakudumisa” (South Africa)  
*Translation: Amen, We Praise Your Name, O God.*

Masithi!

Amen, siakudumisa!

Masithi!

Amen, saikudumisa!

Amen, bawo. Amen, bawo.

Amen, siakudumisa!

Postlude

“God’s Eye Is on the Sparrow”

arr. E. Broughton

(Songs in this service are used by Permission. CCLI License #11439355; CSPL164710)

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

Lisa Cloninger, Brian Hankins, Henry Hankins,  
Laura Hankins, Kathleen Smith

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT HOLY COVENANT

# THIS IS GOD'S HOUSE WHERE ALL ARE WELCOME

At this time, with consultation with our staff and church leadership, Sunday Worship will be live-streamed every Sunday at 11:00 a.m. until further notice. Please know the leadership of Holy Covenant will be closely monitoring developments and will keep you informed of future decisions. Our greatest priority is the safety and well-being of our neighbors and members of our congregation. Our actions impact the world around us so practicing physical distancing is not only necessary but it is an act of kindness and love. To paraphrase a verse from the Talmud, "Anyone who saves one life it is as if she has saved the whole world."



### ASHES FOR ASH WEDNESDAY

Please be on the lookout for ashes prepared from last year's palms. They have been combined with olive oil, placed in small baggies and are being mailed out to you.

Ash Wednesday Service, February 17, 2021 at 7PM

Worship via Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83127062077>

Meeting ID: 831 2706 2077

### LOOKING FOR THINGS TO DO?

Check out the church events calendar online at

<http://holycovenantucc.org/events/>

Ministry Team meetings, Covenant Group gatherings, virtual classes and bible studies and more!

**Please keep practicing the 3 Ws - *wear a mask, wait six feet apart, wash your hands* - until everyone has a chance to get vaccinated.**

"For those of you who want detailed answers about vaccinations with Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, [click here](#):



**UCC Mental Health Network**

Welcoming • Inclusive • Supportive • Engaged

Many people feel depressed and discouraged these days. Some are suffering from clinical depression--the condition that takes hold of one's body, mind and spirit. Many are experiencing frequent low moods and bleak outlooks as a result of isolation, financial stress, discrimination and worry about the future. At times like these we need wise words from those who have come through challenging times and can give us perspective, including an awareness of ourselves as spiritual beings.

"The Soul in Depression" is a presentation of The On Being Project, which seeks to address questions about what it means to be human in these times. It is a moving account of the paths traveled through depression by Quaker teacher and author Parker Palmer; journalist Andrew Solomon; and psychologist and poet Anita Barrows. Find it here:

<https://onbeing.org/programs/the-soul-in-depression/>

For a shorter offering (15 min.), Parker Palmer discusses how to connect with each other in these challenging times and how to think about making a difference when problems are so large:

<https://onbeing.org/programs/living-the-questions-whats-our-communal-equivalent-of-rubbing-each-others-feet/#transcript>

May these be of some comfort if you are struggling.  
Best wishes from the WISE Team.

## **MASK PROJECT CONTINUES THROUGH SPRING**

The Racial Justice and Equity team wishes to commit to making/ supplying masks through April for organizations that are in need. Those interested can help with either purchased masks, or making homemade masks. Our goal is 100 masks per month. Those wishing to sew - patterns are available. Contact Selma Taylor, [meshtaylor@tvc.com](mailto:meshtaylor@tvc.com) for more information. We have donated approximately 950+ masks to several underserved communities. We plan to continue this project until April 2021.

## **MID-WEEK BIBLE STUDY VIA ZOOM, WEDNESDAYS 12:15PM**

Join the discussion as we delve into the beginnings of Paul's missionary journey in the book of Acts. Join the Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89642315861>

Meeting ID: 896 4231 5861



## **SOJOURNERS CLASS - NOT YOUR TYPICAL BIBLE STUDY SUNDAYS AT 9:45AM**

The Sojourners Class continue the study of the Book of Ruth. If you'd like materials for this gathering, please contact Cheri Dennis at [cherid@holycovenantucc.org](mailto:cherid@holycovenantucc.org) or 704-519-6016. All are welcome to join us a 9:45 via Zoom.

[Click here to join the Zoom meeting.](#)

Meeting ID: 876 7340 9762 Passcode: 523903

## **REACH THE PASTORS**

Pastor Fred Robinson, 770-344-8002, [frecrick@holycovenantucc.org](mailto:frecrick@holycovenantucc.org)

Pastor Cheri Dennis 704-519-6016, [cherid@holycovenantucc.org](mailto:cherid@holycovenantucc.org)

If you wish to add someone to the list, please send a note to  
[prayers@holycovenantucc.org](mailto:prayers@holycovenantucc.org).

## **PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

### **Members**

Kevin Decker, Linn Finger, Tom & Kathy Habel, Jon Heaslet, Helen Lambert, Sharon Landis, Karen Long, Irene Mikkelson, Sue & Bill Pascucci, Isabelle Reedy Powell, Jerry & Marion Rhyne, Mamie Stokes, Anita Taylor

### **Friends & Family Members**

Linda Angstrom (Beth Sharp), David & Cecelia Griffin (JP Griffin), Cindy Hedrick (Barb Schneller), Henry Hildebrand (Bill & Connie Hildebrand), Will Hong (Jim Hong), Pauline Jones and James & Neisy Williams (Jeff Edwards-Knight), George Jongeling (Darline Warren), Bob Lyon (Melissa Noll), Linda Matkins (Robert Shepherd), Thibault Ossenbühl (Melissa Noll), Vernon & Andrea Powell (Robert Shepherd), Darrell & Jackie Reichert (Diane Neese), Lauren Reisenberger (Ida Mangione), Jimmy Tucker (Diane Neese), Kathryn Vickery (Ed Vickery), Wanda Williams (John Rapp), Kathleen Wagner

## **OUR MINISTRY TEAM**

**Rev. Fred Robinson, Interim Pastor**

[fredrick@holycovenantucc.org](mailto:fredrick@holycovenantucc.org)

**Rev. Cheri Dennis, Interim Associate Pastor**

[cherid@holycovenantucc.org](mailto:cherid@holycovenantucc.org)

**Mr. Jon Weddell, M. Div., Minister of Music**

[jon@holycovenantucc.org](mailto:jon@holycovenantucc.org)

**Mrs. Dawn Simmons, Executive Assistant**

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