

June 19, 2022
Second Sunday after Pentecost

~Gathering Together ~

Prelude "Indescribable" arr. Tornquist

Welcome

Missions & Ministries

Invocation

Choral Introit "Let Your Spirit Come" Songbook # 96
Let your Spirit come, let your Spirit come; fall upon me now, fall upon me now.
Let your spirit come, let your Spirit come; fall upon us now, fall upon us now.
Let your rain fall down, let your rain fall down; pour upon our souls, pour upon our souls.
Come and wash us now, come and wash us now;
come and make us whole, come and make us whole.
Let your Spirit come, let your Spirit come; fall upon me now, fall upon me now.
Let your spirit come, let your Spirit come; fall upon us now, fall upon us now.

Call to Worship

Pastor: We gather in the presence of our God, whose favor is on justice, who loves the liberation of all.

People: We gather to celebrate freedom from oppression and the full humanity of every man, woman and child.

Pastor: We gather to celebrate the resilience and contributions of Black Americans, and to pledge our continued work to build a just society.

People: We gather to worship and praise our Creator.

Opening Hymn "Come, Christians, Join to Sing" Songbook # 18

Come, Christians, join to sing: Alleluia! Amen!
Loud praise to Christ our King; Alleluia! Amen!
Let all, with heart and voice, before His throne rejoice;
Praise is His gracious choice; Alleluia! Amen!

Come, lift your hearts on high, Alleluia! Amen!
Let praises fill the sky; Alleluia! Amen!
He is our Guide and Friend; To us He'll condescend;
His love shall never end; Alleluia! Amen!

Praise yet our Christ again, Alleluia! Amen!
Life shall not end the strain; Alleluia! Amen!
On heaven's blissful shore, His goodness we'll adore,
Singing forevermore, Alleluia! Amen!

~ *Coming Alive in Community* ~

Litany of Confession:

Pastor: Today, we gather to remember, to reflect, to celebrate FREEDOM!

People: Freedom is not free. We thank You, O God, today for our freedom in You and remember those for whom freedom was so costly a price to pay.

Pastor: We remember those who were enslaved. We recognize that slavery tried to erase the humanity of so many of Your people – those who were enslaved and those who brutalized and dehumanized others, not realizing the cost for their own souls. Lord, have mercy!

People: Forgive us, O God. Help us to always treat one another as we want to be treated and to, above all, recognize that we are all created in Your image and likeness. We remember today. In Your mercy, O God, hear our prayers.

Pastor: We reflect on the gift of freedom today and the many ways that the struggle continues. We lament those who are still treated as less than Your very own as we recommit to fight for freedom and dignity for all of Your people.

People: Help us, O God, to be courageous in fighting for justice and righteousness for all of Your people until justice rolls down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream!

Pastor: We celebrate today! For freedom has come and will come again. For those in cages at our borders, for those locked up in jail cells away from their families, for those who are caught up in human trafficking, for those living without clean water, for those trapped in the bondage of an opioid addiction – God as we celebrate freedom today, help us to continue the fight for freedom across the global village in every form and in every way.

People: We celebrate FREEDOM today! We celebrate with renewed determination, knowing that our work is not done and our task has not been fully accomplished until all of God's children are truly free from bondage.

All: We remember, we reflect, we celebrate this Juneteenth. Thank You, O God, for reminding us that freedom is possible, necessary and a promise from You.

(Copeland-Tune, Leslie. "Responsive Reading, National Council of Churches Chapel Service, 2019)

Assurance of Forgiveness

God is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Hear the good news, our sins are forgiven.

Special Music

“Still Small Voice”

Sandy Rowe, Vocalist

Dan Wolgemuth © 2022 First Run Muzik Psalter (ASCAP)

~ *We Hear God's Word* ~

Scripture Lessons

The Gospel Reading: Luke 8:26-39

Louise Hine

The Reading of Psalm 42

The Epistle Reading: I Kings 19:1-15

The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn for Reflection

“Dear God, Embracing Humankind”

Vs. 1, 2, 4, 5
Songbook # 100

Dear God, embracing human-kind, forgive our foolish ways;
Reclothe us in our rightful mind, in purer lives your service find,
in deeper reverence, praise.

In simple trust like theirs who heard, beside the Syrian sea,
The gracious calling of your word, let us, like them, be spirit stirred,
rise up and followers be.

Drop your still dews of quietness, till all our strivings cease;
Take from our souls the strain and stress, and let our ordered lives confess
the beauty of your peace.

Breathe through the pulses of desire your coolness and your balm;
Let sense be numb, let flesh retire; speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire,
O still, small voice of calm.

~ Sharing Blessings With Others ~

Prayers of the People

Closing litany for Prayers of the People:

People: May we accept the call to be bearers of peace.

Pastor: That the fullness of compassion and true justice may be extended to the victims
and families who have been subjected to violence, abuse, discrimination and murder, we
pray,

People: May we accept the call to be bearers of peace.

Pastor: That our communities and our schools may find ways to actively participate in
efforts to reduce violence against Black citizens so that this country may take the lead in
fostering antiracism, we pray,

People: May we accept the call to be bearers of peace.

Pastor: That all who gather this week to remember Juneteenth be able to freely remember
and celebrate their stories of joy and pain, struggle and triumph, we pray,

People: May we accept the call to be bearers of peace.

Pastor: That we be courageous in living out the Gospel, we pray,

People: May we accept the call to be bearers of peace.

(Catholic Health Association. "Intercessions." <https://www.chausa.org/prayers/cha-prayer-library/prayer/juneteenthprayer-service>)

The Prayer of Our Savior

Minister: Let us pray as Christ our Savior has taught us.

All: 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

Announcements

The Prayer Community asks you to join with us this week in praying for:

Gene Takach, Emily and Nick and Eric Croom
Becky, Joe, Grace and Cole Major and Seth Dawicki
Wayne Klein
Nicole, Scott and Tully Meehan
Lindsey Martin-Dunn

~ This week at Shenkel UCC ~

Sun., 6/19 ~ Reflective Worship service at 8:30 am in sanctuary.
~ Worship service in the Grove at 9:45 am
Tues., 6/21 ~ Midday Dinner Club at noon at Railroad Street Bar and Grill

~Upcoming events at Shenkel UCC~

Sun., 6/26 ~ Reflective Worship service at 8:30 am in sanctuary.
~ Worship service in the Grove at 9:45 am

Scripture Readings for June 26:

Luke 9:51-62; Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20; II Kings 2:1-14

The A/V team is looking for additional people to stream worship services on Sunday mornings. We will provide as much personalized training needed for you to feel comfortable. Senior high youth are also welcome as long as they feel comfortable using a computer. If you can help or have any interest please notify Gary McDermit or Dave Derman.

Pottstown Cluster. This month's items are paper towels, razors, and shaving cream. Please place your items in the bin marked for the Cluster. We will be collecting each week and items will change on a monthly basis.