

BE THE CHURCH

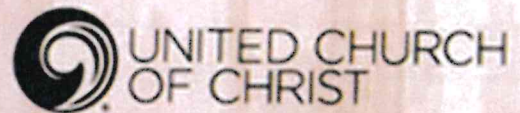
Protect the environment. Care for the poor.

*Forgive often. **Reject racism.***

Fight for the powerless.

Share earthly and spiritual resources.

Embrace diversity. Love God. Enjoy this life.



Trinity United Church of Christ

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Trinity United Church of Christ

July 28, 2024

10:30AM Outdoor Worship & Church Picnic

Worship Series “*Be The Church*” Week 5

Awakening joyful service guided by our still speaking God!

*If this is your first time with us, or if you have come to this sacred space your entire life,
we are glad to be on this journey of faith with you. Trinity believes that*

whoever you are, and wherever you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here!

To enhance your worship experience, we have large print bulletins and hearing support devices available.

Please ask an usher or greeter for assistance.

Enter to worship today but stick around to see what God is doing in this place!

*Congregational responses in **bold print**. * Denotes standing as you are able.*

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TIME OF SHARING/GREETING

GATHERING MUSIC

PRELUDE – “Suite Antique” – *J. Ritter*

Flute Flock

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

**We light this candle to remind us that Christ is with us always
and that church can happen anywhere!**

SONG “Here I Am Lord”

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

How do you practice extravagant welcome?

SPECIAL MUSIC

“The Prayers”

Words & Music by C. Bauer Sager & D. Foster

Flute Flock

SCRIPTURE

Ephesians 4:1-16, 1 Cor 12:3-13, Romans 10:12

Let’s talk about that text! ‘*Be The Church*’

Reject Racisim

Kara Young

POEM

SONG “**We Are Marching in the Light of God**” – *South African Freedom song*

COMMUNAL BLESSING OF THE MEAL

**Jesus of the wedding feast, of breakfast on the beach,
bless this food and all gathered here.**

**Be with us now and at all our meals give us an appetite
and a joy in eating together. Amen.**

POSTLUDE - “Rhapsody of Spirituals” – *arranged by L. Kirkpatrick*

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Worship Elements:

HYMNS: *Here I Am, Lord*. Text and Music: Daniel L. Schutte; arr. Michael Pope and John Weissrock. ©1981, Daniel L. Schutte, admin. New Dawn Music/OCP Publications

We Are Marching in the Light of God. South African Freedom Song. © Plymouth Music Corp.

PRELUDE: *Suite Antique*. 1. Prelude, by John Ritter. © Oxford University Press, 1981 and 2013, Forton Music 2013, www.fortonmusic.co.uk.

OFFERTORY: *The Prayer*. Words and Music by Carole Bauer Sager and David Foster; arranged by Ricky Lombardo, Lombardo Music Publications, © 1998, Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., This arrangement ©2010 Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp.

POSTLUDE: *Rhapsody of Spirituals*. Arranged by Linda Kirkpatrick, ©2018, ALRY Publications, LLC. (We have arranger permission to perform on livestreams)

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Today's Worship Participants

| | |
|---|-----------------------|
| Rev. Dr. Frederick A. Young | Pastor |
| Kara Young | |
| Rebecca Woodward | Worship Leader |
| Sara Shank | Organist |
| John McKay | Senior Choir Director |
| Mark Luckenbaugh | Percussion |
| Flute Flock | |
| Becky Wareham | Conductor |
| LeeAnn Baird | Piccolo |
| Jen Buchheister | Bass |
| Georgia Hollabaugh | |
| Judy Kartoz | |
| Cindy McArdle | Alto |
| Edie Rice | Bass |
| Ronda Sprague | Alto |
| Cathy Steinbach | |
| Tammy Swartzbaugh | |
| Janis Wagner | |
| Gay Weigand | |
| Janet & Steve Sheely. | Greeters/Ushers |
| Georgia Hollabaugh, Kara Young, Luke Milhimes, Russell Bailey, | Tech Team |
| Carl Barrick, Suhua Dong, Stacey Rushwald, George Steckert, Garrison Redding, Terry Krietz, | |
| Nina Redding | |

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Here I Am, Lord

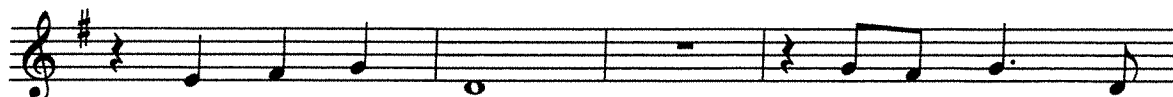
Verses



1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my
2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my
3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the



peo - ple cry. All who dwell in dark and sin
peo - ple's pain. I have wept for love of them.
poor and lame. I will set a feast for them.



My hand will save. I who made the
They turn a - way. I will break their
My hand will save. Fin - est bread I



stars of night, I will make their dark - ness bright.
hearts of stone, Give them hearts for love a - lone.
will pro - vide Till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

Refrain



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call - ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

Text: Isaiah 6; Dan Schutte, b.1947

Tune: Dan Schutte, b.1947; arr. by Michael Pope, SJ, John Weissrock

© 1981, Daniel L. Schutte and New Dawn Music. Published by OCP Publications.

Siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos'

(We Are Marching in the Light of God)

Ps. 89:15

South African freedom song; transl. Freedom Is Coming, 1984

Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen-khos', si - ya -
We are march - ing in the light of God, we are

hamb' e - ku - kha-nyen' kwen-khos'. Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha -
march-ing in the light of God. We are march-ing in the

nyen' kwen - khos', Si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya -
kha - nyen' kwen-khos', ham - ba, si - ya -
light of God. We are march-ing, march-ing, we are
the light of God. We are march-ing, march-ing, we are

ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya - hamb' e - ku-kha-nyen' kwen-khos'.
march-ing, march-ing, we are march-ing in the light of God.

This South African song and fourteen others were first recorded and published in 1980 by the Church of Sweden Mission and the singing group "Fjedur" after a visit they made to South Africa. The subsequent 1984 collection Freedom Is Coming brought the songs to a worldwide audience.

Tune: SIYAHAMBA Irr.
South African song

Trinity United Church of Christ
Gettysburg, PA

July 28, 2024

“Be the Church” Summer Series

Week 5: Reject Racism

BE THE CHURCH

*Protect the environment. Care for the poor.
Forgive often. **Reject racism.**
Fight for the powerless.
Share earthly and spiritual resources.
Embrace diversity. Love God. Enjoy this life.*



Rev. Dr. Frederick Young

Pastor

Living in an historic town has its advantages and disadvantages. Never did I suspect that protestors would convene around the center circle of Gettysburg. Before the pandemic rocked our world, many students and educational professionals advocated to “Re-Right” history. Filled with numerous statues remembering the battle of Gettysburg, our small town was front and center in the debate over Confederate monuments. At the same time, White nationalists marched through the grounds of a Charlottesville, VA park with torches and holding a deadly ‘Unite the Right rally.’ The violent assembly protesting the removal of General, Robert E. Lee’s statue.

Many from the same group came to Gettysburg and held protests near Confederate monuments as well as downtown. Large trucks, cars, and motorcycles with both American and Confederate flags flying could be seen for days on end. The scene was both disappointing and frightening. How did we get to this point in our world? What will it take to get us back on the path of peace? Our local ministerium held a silent prayer vigil through the streets of our town. Churches were

encouraged to kneel or sit along the four main streets that merged into the center circle and pray silently. We held signs that said, “**We pray for all God’s children!**” As we prayed, many travelers blew their horns and shouted their support. Many others shouted slurs and hateful rhetoric. Again, I felt disappointment and fear for our nation.

As a person of faith, it remains a mystery to me why it is so hard to follow the greatest commandment, “Love one another.” A couple thousand years later and we still cannot wrap our heads around the idea that through Christ there is no longer slave or free, no longer Greek or Jew, no longer North or South. We need a reassessment of what it means to be a follower of Christ. The journey is not of our choosing but laid out for us by the One who died so that ALL would be free. No stipulations or cultural status! ALL are free and equal.

Rejecting racism is not a black and white issue. Our nation was built and continues to thrive as a great melting pot of cultures. For several years the United Church of Christ has been promoting the theology “No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey,

YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!” These words go beyond the color of one’s skin or the language one speaks. The pluralistic nature of this credo addresses ALL God’s children. However, even within one of the most liberal, justice seeking Christian denominations, racism exists. Our church history has not always been steeped in inclusivity. We have sought forgiveness and reconciliation, but the damage done to our indigenous tribes is irreversible. The path forward must be paved in love.

(Show video: “Discovered or Stolen” from the UCC YouTube page)

I met Toni Buffalo of the Lakota Nation at General Synod 29 in Long Beach, California. The beads and rope I am wearing were given to me as a sign of friendship and hospitality by my Synod roommate from Honolulu, HI. Delegates were given enough information to overwhelmingly vote to seek to have the US abandon the Doctrine of Discovery. This doctrine has had a significant effect on indigenous peoples over time, destroying their spirituality, culture, and deep ties to the land. The mid 1800’s policy allowing Christian Missionaries to set

up Indigenous boarding schools was as close to us as Carlise, PA where one of the schools still stands. The UCC was part of this policy. For decades now our UCC General Synod has voted and accepted numerous resolutions to help our church correct the wrongs of the past.

The basic definition of racism is a belief that race is a fundamental determinant of human traits and capacities, and that racial differences produce an inherent superiority of a particular people. I will never forget the feelings that welled up from within me while kneeling on Baltimore Street in downtown Gettysburg, and holding a sign that all God's children were worthy of grace. At some point in our lives, each one of us has experienced racism, yet standing against oppression and superiority still goes against the grain. We cannot claim "No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, YOU ARE WELCOME HERE" and NOT be willing to stand against the grain. The love of Christ demands it. A clergy colleague of mine within the PCC recently posted on Facebook,

“Beware of any Christian movement that insists it has so many enemies to conquer rather than so many neighbors to love.”

Looking back across the ‘Be The Church’ themes so far I can not help but notice that they have been building on each other. We can be the church by protecting our environment and using the resources saved to care for the poor. By compassionately forgiving each other we develop a solid foundation for rejecting racism. Next week, we will focus on fighting for the powerless. If we strive to eliminate oppression and superiority, the powerless will gain a voice. My friends, may we find it within ourselves to follow Christ by emulating his mission and ministry. Amen.