

The CHURCH of the COVENANT

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

SUNDAY, JANUARY 14, 2017, 10:00 AM

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

**All who are able are invited to stand.*



THE MCGAFFIN CARILLON

GEORGE LEGGIERO, Carillonneur

PRELUDE

Bergamasca

GIROLAMO FRESCOBALDI

Dr. Jonathan Moyer, Organist and Director of Music

WELCOME

THE REV. MELANIE MARSH BAUM, Associate Pastor

STATEMENT OF OPPORTUNITY

SATURDAY TUTORING

* CELEBRATION OF COMMUNITY

INTROIT

I Stood on the River of Jordan

SPIRITUAL ~ ARR. WILLIAM WOODS

The R. Nathaniel Dett Concert Choir of the Cleveland School of the Arts

I stood on the river of Jordan to see that ship come sailing over; stood on the river of Jordan to see that ship sail by. O mourner don't you weep when you see that ship come sailing over. Shout glory hallelujah when you see that ship sail by.

* CALL TO WORSHIP

KEVIN J. LOWRY, Chaplain to Students

One: We worship the God who inhabits our world and indwells our lives.

We need not look up to find God,

**All: We need only look around: within ourselves,
beyond ourselves, into the eyes of another.**

One: We need not listen for a distant thunder to find God,

**All: We need only listen to the music of life, the words of children,
the questions of the curious, the rhythm of a heartbeat.**

One: We worship the God who inhabits our world and who indwells our lives.

All: Let us worship God!

* HYMN 435

We All Are One in Mission

WALDVÖGELEIN

* CALL TO CONFESSION

BOB AULT, Lay Worship Leader

* CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, we know that your reconciling love breaks down every form of discrimination. Help us to abolish such discrimination and to care for those whom hatred has harmed. As Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said some five decades ago, "I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character." Lord, help us to make that dream become a reality in our time. We ask your forgiveness as we silently confess our sins.

* PRIVATE CONFESSION OF SIN

* DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

One: Hear the Good News!

The Apostle Paul declares, "I am convinced that there is nothing in death or life, in the realm of spirits or superhuman powers, in the world as it is or the world as it shall be, in the forces of the universe, in height or depths – nothing in all Creation that can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." (from Romans 8)

Friends, believe the good news.

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven..

* GLORIA PATRI

HYMN 579

Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;**

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

****or Maker**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON

JAMES 2:14-26

ANTHEM

Freedom Plow

ARR. ROLLO DILWORTH
Cleveland School of the Arts

Hold on! A long time ago, an enslaved people heading toward freedom made up a song: keep your hand on the plow! hold on! that plow plowed a new furrow across the field of history. Into that furrow the freedom seed was dropped. From that seed a tree grew, is growing, will ever grow. That tree is for everybody, for all America, for all the world. May its branches spread and its shelter grow until all races and all peoples know its shade. Keep your hand on the plow! Hold on! ~text by Langston Hughes

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

MINDY STEWART, Director of Family Ministries

While all children are more than welcome to remain in the service, we have a nursery for infants through pre-kindergarten children. Ask an usher for directions.

SECOND LESSON

PHILEMON

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

On the Basis of Love

THE REV. AMY STARR REDWINE, Pastor
& THE REV. MELANIE MARSH BAUM, Associate Pastor

* HYMN 386

O for a World

AZMON

JOYS AND CONCERNS IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY

MINDY STEWART

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING, INTERCESSION, AND PETITION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

For the Sake of Our Children

JEFFREY L. AMES
The Combined Choirs

O God save your children. Shelter them with your loving arms. May your angels guard and protect them we pray. Victimae paschali laudes (Praise the Paschal victim). We bring before you the tribulations of the world. The violence and the pain. Human greed, injustice, all hatred and strife. O Lord, establish peace on earth. Bind us with a band of unity we pray. O Lord, we pray. Mors et vita duello (Death and life duel). Children are dying all across the land, victims of war and disease. "Father, do you feel their pain when they are killed by the sword of the enemy? Can you hear the mothers cry in agony, who hold the suffering children in their arms?" Tell me, "Who has seen such sorrow?" O Lord we pray for your justice and peace. People rise up, pour out your hearts unto the Lord. May he send his wondrous love o'er all the earth, and grant us peace which the world cannot give. Let there be peace, never-ending peace.

Prayer during the musical interlude:

One Voice: Almighty God, please answer our prayer; let there be peace in Sudan.

All: Be merciful unto your children.

One Voice: Let there be peace in the Middle East:

All: Be merciful unto your children.

One Voice: Let there be peace in the Americas:

All: Be merciful unto your children.

One Voice: Let there be peace throughout the world;

All: For the sake of your children.

* DOXOLOGY

OLD HUNDREDTH, HYMN 591

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.* Amen.

**or Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost*

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

* HYMN

We Shall Overcome

SPIRITUAL

The Choir:

We shall overcome; We'll walk hand in hand; We are not afraid;

Refrain: Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe we shall overcome some day.

All are invited to stand and sing.

We shall live in peace; we shall live in peace; we shall live in peace someday. Refrain

God will see us through; God will see us through; God will see us through today. Refrain

We shall overcome; we shall overcome; we shall overcome some day. Refrain

* CHARGE AND BLESSING

CARILLON POSTLUDE

GEORGE LEGGIERO

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

MUSIC REHEARSAL, Sanctuary, 8:00

COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP, Sanctuary, 11:00

CRÈCHE NURSERY, Education Wing, 9:30

SCIENCE OF SPIRITUALITY, Sonia Golden Room, 12:30

WORSHIP, Sanctuary, 10:00

YOUTH CHOIR/SUNDAY SCHOOL, Education Wing, 10:15

DWELLERS, Living Room, 12:00

The church will be closed tomorrow, Monday, January 15, in honor of MLK, Jr. Day.

WELCOME UNDERGRADUATE, GRADUATE, AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENTS!

Please join us at today's reception.

To learn more: KLowry@CovenantWeb.org, 216.421.0482, ext. 236; CovenantStudentMinistries.org.

✚ **OUR LAY WORSHIP LEADER** is Bob Ault, who with his wife Karen joined the Covenant in November 1997. He has served on Session, Clerk of Session, the Stewardship Committee, Ministry of Justice, a Stephen Minister and a tutor at Daniel E. Morgan School. Bob serves on the Board of God Before Guns, and has served on numerous Presbytery committees and was the Moderator of the Presbytery of the Western Reserve. Bob and Karen have three married children and thirteen grandchildren.

✚ **THE FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL URN** are given to the glory of God and in memory of Gary Holbein, whose birthday is January 13, by his wife Beth Holbein.

✚ **USHERS TODAY** are Clint Fowler, Ann Williams, Patty Fowler, John Bromelmeier, and Jim Greene. Greeting are Arnie and Susan Dahm and Liz Shriver .

✚ **MUSIC NOTES:** We welcome the R. Nathaniel Dett Choir from the Cleveland School of the Arts to our service today, joining voices together with the Covenant Choir in a stirring anthem by Jeffrey L. Ames, who teaches and directs choirs at Belmont University, Nashville, TN. The anthem addresses strife and violence around the world and incorporates two phrases from the Gregorian Easter hymn, *Victimae paschali laudes*. CSA presents two other spirituals, the first, "I Stood on the River Jordan," references "the old ship of Zion," a metaphorical vessel representing the underground railroad piloted by famed abolitionist Harriet Tubman. The other anthem, "Freedom Plow," by Rollo Dillworth, is based on a poem by Langston Hughes (1902-1967).

✚ **WE PRAY FOR** Don Norris (friend of Tom and Cheri Keys), Judy Bourne, Andrew Bullen (Melanie Marsh Baum's cousin), Akeya Clark (Marie Jones' niece), Anne Wombwell deConingh, Marlene Finkenthal (David Finkenthal's mother), Eliseo Hairston (Shirley Thompson's grandson deployed to the Pacific), Mollie Hoar (family friend of Gene and Diane Papp), Greg Madison, Navy Seal Luke McClain (Dr. bert Campbell's nephew, new father of twins, just deployed), Elizabeth Mierke, Ward Porch, Sue Salvatore, Daniel Straffon (Cary Arden's grandson traveling to Myanmar), Tom Skrout (Stephanie Pennza's father), Liam Stewart (Mindy Stewart's nephew), Doug Weiss (Ann Williams' friend), and Baby Kaden (community member undergoing heart surgery at Cleveland Clinic on 01.12.18). We pray for those struggling with illness, convalescing, or are homebound; the patients, family, and staff in our surrounding hospitals; and those who have placed prayer requests in our Carpenter's Box.

✚ **BELIEVING GOD CALLS US TO BE PEACEMAKERS** , each month we pray for people affected by gun violence, marked by the tolling of the tower bell. Since a gunman opened fire at Sandy Hook Elementary School on December 14, 2012, killing 26 people, 20 of them children; 893 people in Cuyahoga County have been killed by guns. Since last month, 23 more individuals have died by gun violence in Cuyahoga County. The names of those at least 18 years of age are: Andrew Hart, Timothy White, Kameron J. Westbrook, Adrian Andrew Burke Sr., Cornelius Ray Love II, Israel Castro, Matthew Daniel Miller, Sha-Var De-Ez Bradley, Antoine Bailey, Douglas Clements, Michael C. Scott, Melvin Ephraim, Bohdan T. Szemeczko, Richard James Carlo Jr., Valery Jean Dressler, Esmat Aminalla, Stephen Mazzola, Tony Lee Porter, Jared Plesec, Errone Cedric McCrimon, Rickey Gray, and Steven Dwayne Sopko. Eight of those who died were by suicide, and one victim was under eighteen.

✚ **PARTNERING WITH NORTH CHURCH, SUNDAYS JANUARY 21 & 28 AND APRIL 8 & 15**

Join a team of six to eight people on January 21 and/or 28 and April 8 and/or 15 from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm to assist in preparing and serving the community meal that follows their worship service. North Church shares space with Lutheran Metropolitan Ministries at 4515 Superior Avenue. Sign up in the church office. For more information contact Ministry of Service member Bob Ault. North Church is a Covenant mission partner.

✚ **HOMELESS STAND DOWN, SATURDAY, JANUARY 20. PLEASE BRING ITEMS BY WEDNESDAY, JAN. 17**

We are again collecting for the Homeless Stand Down. Please bring your donations to the church office: **new/gently used** waterproof boots, winter coats, reusable shopping bags; **new only** athletic socks, adult waterproof gloves, kids and adult size hooded sweatshirts, and adult knit hats.



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