

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Sunday, February 7, 2021



Mural of Faith, Hope, Love, and Peace
Chicago, IL

**Faith Presbyterian Church
Order of Worship**

*We will celebrate communion at the conclusion of the service today,
so please have a piece of bread, and juice or wine ready!*

GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Cat Dodson Goodrich

Joys and Concerns

Prelude *Adoration*

Florence B. Price
(1887-1953)

Call to Worship *adapted from "I Dream a World" by Langston Hughes*

Leanora Eubanks

One: We "dream of a world where man
No other man will scorn,
Where love will bless the earth
And peace its paths adorn..."
We "dream a world where all
Will know sweet freedom's way,
Where greed no longer saps the soul
Nor avarice blights our day...
where black or white,
Whatever race you be,
Will share the bounties of the earth
And every [one] is free..."

All: Let us join our hearts to worship the One who creates, liberates, and sustains us all! Let us worship God together.

Hymn 656 *We've Come This Far by Faith*

THIS FAR BY FAITH

page 7

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

*PASCA, South Africa

God of mercy, when we ignore the sufferings of others and live comfortably with injustice, forgive us. For self-righteousness that denies guilt, and self interest that strangles compassion, forgive us. For all who live life in careless unconcern, crying "Peace, peace," when there is no peace, we ask your mercy. For the times we are too rushed to care, or too tired to bother; when we don't really listen, and are quick to act from motives other than love, forgive us, we pray. We open our hearts to you in silent prayer...

Kyrie 437 *You Are the Lord, Giver of Mercy*

WAYFARING STRANGER

You are the Lord, giv-er of mer-cy!
 You are the Christ, giv-er of mer-cy!
 You are the Lord, giv-er of mer-cy!

Am D C D Em C Em
 Em D G Am Em D E

Assurance of Grace

Gloria 659 *Know That God Is Good*

MUNGU NI MWEMA

verse 1

1 Know that God is good. Know that
 2 Hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le,
 Mu - ngu ni mwe - ma. Mu - ngu

God is good. Know that God is good;
 hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah,
 ni mwe - ma. Mu - ngu ni mwe - ma,

God is good; God is good.
 hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah.
 ni mwe - ma, ni mwe - ma.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

A Moment with Faith Kids

Chandra Jackson

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 40:21-31

Did you not know?
Have you not heard?
Was it not told to you from the beginning?
Have you not understood since the earth was founded?
YHWH sits above the vaulted roof of the world, and its inhabitants look like grasshoppers!
God stretches out the skies like a curtain,
and spreads them out like a tent for mortals to live under!
God reduces the privileged to nothing
and throws the rulers of the earth into chaos.,.

No sooner are they planted, no sooner are they sown,
no sooner do they take root on earth,
than God blows on them and they wither,
and a storm wind sweeps them away like chaff.

"To whom can you liken me?
Who is my equal?" says the Holy One.
Lift up your eyes and ask yourself who made these stars,
if not the One who drills them like an army, calling each by name?
Because God is so great in strength, so mighty in power,
not a single one is missing.

How can you say,
tribe of Leah and Rachel and Jacob, "My destiny is hidden from YHWH, my rights are ignored
by my God?"
Do you not know? Have you not heard? YHWH is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth. This God does not faint or grow weary;
with a depth of understanding that is unsearchable.
God give strength to the weary, and empowers the powerless.
Young women may grow tired and weary,
young men may stumble and fall,
but those who wait for YHWH find a renewed power:
they soar on eagles' wings, they run and don't get weary, they walk and never tire.

Music *Movement 2 for First Sonata*

Florence B. Price

Gospel Reading Mark 1:29-39

As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with

various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, 'Everyone is searching for you.' He answered, 'Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do.' And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

This is the word of God, for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon

What Are We Waiting For?

Rev. Goodrich

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Hymn 792 *There Is a Balm in Gilead*

BALM IN GILEAD

verses 1-2; page 8

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory *Offertory*

Florence B. Price

CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION

Invitation to The Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise...

The prayer continues, concluding with

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in Heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Words of Institution

Sharing of Communion

When the bread is broken, please break the bread you have at home. When the cup is poured, please pour it at home, or touch the cup if you've already filled it. We give thanks that the Spirit is present wherever we are, knitting us together as the body of Christ in the world.

Prayer after Communion

God of grace, you renew us at your table with the bread of life. May this food strengthen us in love and help us to serve you in each other. In your many names we pray. Amen.

SENDING GOD'S PEOPLE INTO THE WORLD

Hymn 526 *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*

LINSTEAD

page 6

Charge & Benediction

Postlude *Festal March*

Florence B. Price

Passing of the Peace

Leading Worship Today

Rev. Cat Goodrich, *Pastor*

Dr. Samuel Springer, *Minister of Music and Organist*

Chandra Jackson, *Children's Sermon*

Leanora Eubanks, *Liturgist*

Kristin Herber, *Zoom Moderator*

Dawn Shirey, *PowerPoint*

*Confession adapted from PASCA, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa, Bread of Tomorrow: Prayers for the Church Year, Janet Morley, ed., Orbis Books: Maryknoll, NY, 1992, p. 72.

526 Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a
2 Christ is a - ble to make us one; at the ta - ble he
3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a



shout of joy: bread is bro - ken; the wine is poured;
sets the tone, teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless,
world of doubt, gives us love to tell, bread to share:



Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
love in word and in deed ex - press. Je - sus lives a - gain;
God (Im - man - u - el) ev - ery - where!



earth can breathe a - gain; pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

We've Come This Far by Faith 656

We've come this far by faith, lean-ing on the Lord,

trust-ing in the ho-ly Word; God's nev-er failed us yet.

O, can't turn a-round, we've come this

far by faith. We've come this far by faith.

This refrain from a longer hymn could well be understood as a black gospel reflection on several biblical passages: 2 Corinthians 5:7, 1 Samuel 7:12, and 1 Chronicles 17:16. All these texts bear witness to God's faithfulness toward all who are engaged in the pilgrimage of faith.

TEXT and MUSIC: Albert A. Goodson, 1956
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THIS FAR BY FAITH
Irregular

There Is a Balm in Gilead 792

Refrain

There is a balm in Gil-e-ad to make the wound-ed whole;

Fine

there is a balm in Gil-e-ad to heal the sin-sick soul.

1 Some-times I feel dis-cour-aged, and think my work's in vain, but
 2 Don't ev - er feel dis-cour-aged, for Je-sus is your friend, and
 3 If you can-not preach like Pe - ter, if you can-not pray like Paul, you can

to Refrain

then the Ho-ly Spir - it re-vives my soul a - gain. There is a
 if you lack for knowl-edge, he'll not re-fuse to lend. There is a
 tell the love of Je - sus and say, "He died for all." There is a

This African American spiritual offers a long-delayed answer to the prophet Jeremiah's question, "Is there no balm in Gilead?" (Jeremiah 8:22). No earthly remedy can compare with the healing that comes from a sense of God's presence; nothing else can heal "the sin-sick soul."

TEXT: African American spiritual
 MUSIC: African American spiritual; arr. Melva Wilson Costen, 1989, alt.
 Music Arr. © 1990 Melva Wilson Costen

BALM IN GILEAD
 7.6.7.6 with refrain