

January 16, 2022



Latimore, Kelly. *Martin Luther King, Jr.*, from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

To join worship this morning via zoom app, click this link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83928727469?pwd=WFhzWkJFQjBhTlp4UEUvdWRhS2IKdz09> (if you are asked for a password, it is: 890967). **To dial in by phone** call 1 312 626 6799. When prompted, enter 839 2872 7469#. Next, you will be prompted to enter your participant ID or to push #; **simply push # again.**

Music will be displayed on the screen during the livestream.

Prelude

Welcome

If you're new to First Church, we'd love to get to know you better. You can sign up to receive our email communications on the home page of our website, www.firstchurchmn.org (scroll down to the heading "stay connected" on the right side of the page). You find us on Facebook by searching for "First Congregational Church of MN, UCC." You're also welcome to introduce yourself in the chat or comments.

Gathering

Video:

March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom: Archival Footage, created by the SALT project (saltproject.org)

Readings:

Words of Martin Luther King Jr., from the sermon "Loving Your Enemies"

Excerpts from bell hooks' essay "Love as the Practice of Freedom" and her book *All About Love: A New Vision*

The ancient Latin hymn "Ubi caritas amor"

Hymn: *Where Charity and Love Prevail*, NCH 396

Scripture: Isaiah 62:1–5; John 8:1–11

Sermon: "Can You Be a Stone Catcher?" Rev. Kwame Osei Reed

Hymn: *Lift Every Voice and Sing*, NCH 593

Prayers of the People

You may write your prayer request on the clipboard by the entrance to the sanctuary, share your joys and concerns verbally, in a sentence or two. You may choose to end with the phrase, "God in your mercy" or another phrase, after which the congregation will respond, "Hear our prayer."

Lord's Prayer

A commonly used form is printed below. You are welcome to use the version most meaningful to you.

Our God, 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 for ever. Amen.

Offering

We invite your financial gifts to support our ministries within and beyond First Church. January's Special Offering is given to ISAIAH. You can give electronically by going to our website: www.firstchurchmn.org, and clicking on the "Support Us" link. You can also give by texting 612-255-4109: "\$(amount) Special" (for the monthly offering) or "\$(amount) General Fund. If you give by check, please make it out to First Church with "ISAIAH" in the memo line. Thank you!

Offertory

Offertory Response: refrain of *God of Change and Glory*, NCH 177

Many gifts, one Spirit, one love known in many ways.

In our difference is blessing, from diversity we praise

one Giver, one Word, one Spirit,

one God known in many ways,

hallowing our days.

For the giver, for the gifts, praise, praise, praise.

Prayer of Dedication

All: We commit ourselves, O Christ, to the transformative love you bring into the world—love that allows us to see each other through God's own eyes. Amen.

Hymn: *O Radiant Christ, Incarnate Word*, NCH 168

Postlude

Thanks to those who serve in the following roles today:

Guest Preacher: Rev. Kwame Osei Reed

Reader: Lisa Hubinger

Tech Support: Cynthia Hendricks, Greg Hubinger, Hikaru Peterson

Coming up this week

Sunday, January 16

10a: Worship on Zoom/YouTube; Reverend Kwame Osei Reed, Esquire preaching

11:15a: 2nd Hour with Rev. Reed

12:30p: Worship team on Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89444838595?pwd=TXRxWERIOHVtanFFaGhNZ1RDS3Jodz09>

Mon. January 17

7:30p: Knitting Group on Zoom

Tuesday, January 18

12:30p: Building Committee

Wednesday, January 19

noon: Elder Lunch

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86847368562?pwd=VHE3T3Q2cFd4aGRGNmpCaHN0T1IUZz09>

7p: Racial Justice Working Group

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82923519633?pwd=eTIVaGZJZFZlcGxtSGpxRnBISUlsUT09>

Thursday, January 20

February Chimes articles due

7p: Climate Justice working group on Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82923519633?pwd=eTIVaGZJZFZlcGxtSGpxRnBISUlsUT09>

Sunday, January 23

10a: Worship on Zoom/YouTube; Jane McBride preaching

First Congregational Church of Minnesota, UCC • 500 8th Avenue SE,
Minneapolis, MN 55414 • 612-331-3816; office@firstchurchmn.org;
www.firstchurchmn.org

Ministers The People of First Church

Principal Minister Jane McBride: jmcbride@firstchurchmn.org; ext. 304;
cell: 612-598-2432

Minister of Music Byron Almén: balmen@firstchurchmn.org; cell: 512-809-9789

Parish Administrator Sarah Tittle: office@firstchurchmn.org; cell: 612-205-9870

Facilities Manager Brad Schumann: bschumann@firstchurchmn.org; cell: 651-357-8082

Moderator Melissa Harl: melissaharl84@gmail.com; 612-810-2804

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Pastor Jane's typical work week is Sun.–Thurs. Please call or email her to set up appointments as she is in and out of the office. She hopes you will contact her for support and prayer in times of illness, hospitalization, or crisis. If your need is urgent, please call or text her cell phone at any time of the week.

Announcements

We welcome preacher Reverend Kwame Osei Reed, Esquire. Rev. Reed is a retired ordained minister in the United Church of Christ. Since his ordination into the UCC in 1979, he has pursued a career ranging from pastoring to legal and academic work. For 27 years, he served as Association Minister for the Potomac Association of the United Church of Christ (UCC). He taught at Oberlin College, in the Legal Studies Department of the University of Pittsburgh, and at the Howard University School of Divinity. He was a Human Rights Attorney whose practice included representing asylum clients and other persons seeking relief in the U. S. Immigration Court. **Stay on the Zoom call after worship for a 2nd Hour during which Rev. Reed will join in a conversation about his sermon.**

About the video from the Salt Project: <https://vimeo.com/383154903>. In honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, here's a lovely two-minute immersion in amazing archival footage from the 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom. No doubt Dr. King would want us to

remember and celebrate all the people who made the march possible—inspiring us 57 years later to keep working, marching, and fighting for jobs, freedom, equal rights, liberation, inclusivity, and a world where Black lives truly matter.

This is a labor of love available for congregations and individuals everywhere, so download and share it far and wide: in worship, on social media, on your website, with your family and friends. Let freedom ring!

Elder Lunch this Wednesday on Zoom! If you identify as an Elder—whatever that means to you—please join us for a lunchtime get-together. Interesting conversation guaranteed. Use this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86847368562?pwd=VHE3T3Q2cFd4aGRGNmpCaHN0T1lUZz09>

Supporting native students in Minneapolis public schools. The office of Native American Engagement, Education, and Outreach is looking for volunteers to help with an enrollment project for native students throughout the district. They would like to reach out to native families throughout the district that have students transitioning into the sixth and ninth grades to help them know their choices. MPS will provide a script to make phone calls. If you are tech savvy, they would like you to help students do the paperwork online.

If this is something you could help do, please email Cece Benimon at cecelia.benimon@mpls.k12.mn.us with dates that you could help. This could either be in-person or at home. Miigwech!

UCC 101 with Clyde Steckel has been postponed to March, due to the hazards of Covid infection. We hope to be able to meet in person on March 10, 17 and 24 at 7p. If you are signed up for the course but know that you can't make it in March please let Sarah Tittle know: office@firstchurchmn.org.

Let's support Mercedes and family! Audrey Rose was born on December 27 to parents Mercedes Tuma-Hansen and Marcus Ostenson (and brother Torsten). She weighs 7lbs. 4oz. and is named after her grandma Margaret Rose Tuma and her great grandma Elaine Audrey Tuma (Parkos). You can send well wishes to Mercedes, Marcus and Torsten at 1424 Frankson Ave., St. Paul, 55108 or at tumah010@gmail.com. While the family has been splitting their time between the farm and St. Paul they will now be living at their St. Paul house full time. They are hoping for help from church members who were lifesavers when Torsten was born. They have set up a Meal Train link: <https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/e1dk2o> and would also love help with laundry! Contact Mercedes to offer your assistance (or sign up for meals at the link).

Burt and Marcia Sundquist, longtime members of the First Church community, will be moving to Salt Lake City on January 11. They will certainly miss everyone in Minnesota, but they need more care and to be closer to family. We want to send them off with our love and prayers. So we will collect your messages to include in a card from the congregation. If you would like to participate, please send your message to Jane: jmcbride@firstchurchmn.org.