

Use the following worship guide as we gather on Sunday morning via Zoom. Simply click here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2398495210>

** Announcements are at the end of this Order of Worship. **

The Service of Worship
First and St. Stephen's United Church of Christ
Baltimore, Maryland
Juneteenth

June 19, 2022

10:30 a.m.



Gye Nyame

Except God. A symbol expressing the omnipotence of God.

Prelude

Adoration

Nancy Chronister, Director of Music

By Florence Price

Florence Beatrice Price (1887-1953) was an African-American classical composer, pianist, organist and teacher. Price is noted as the first African-American woman to be recognized as a symphonic composer, and the first to have a composition played by a major orchestra. She composed over 300 works.

Welcome and Opportunities for Ministry

Rev. Kelly M. Sisson, Pastor

The Lesson from the Psalms

Psalm 42

Nora Jones, Liturgist

Call to Worship Litany

Congregation reads the **bold print**.

We pray, O Lord, for change.

Jesus, you revealed God through your wise words and loving deeds,
and we encounter you still today in the faces of those whom society has pushed to the margins.

**Guide us, through the love you revealed,
to establish the justice you proclaimed,
that all peoples might dwell in harmony and peace,
united by that one love that binds us to each other, and to you.**

And most of all, Lord, change our routine worship and work
into genuine encounter with you and our better selves
so that our lives will be changed for the good of all.

- Adapted from *Racial Healing and Liturgical Resources*
by the Archdiocese of Baltimore

Opening Hymn

Come All You People (see insert)

By Alexander Gondo

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

Rev. Sisson

Please remember these shared concerns:

- ! Chayah Campbell, missing from Towson since May 5, and the scores of Black and Brown women and girls who continue to be listed as missing in our community
- ! Rebecca and Freyja McConkey
- ! Uvalde, TX, and all those at Robb Elementary School
- ! The community of Buffalo, NY after a racially motivated mass shooting
- ! Our siblings in Ukraine and prayers for peace
- ! COVID patients, caregivers, and others impacted by this lingering and mutating virus
- ! Bill Ingram and his family

- ! Amanda Ajulu and her family
- ! Stef's brother, David, living with Alzheimer's

Call to Reconciliation

Born into communities of varying lands, cultures, colors, histories, and traditions, we know, God, that we often forget that you know all, see all, and are All. We forget that our diverse experiences are all known to you. Help us see and experience our lives as part of an evolving and loving whole. Help us see our lives as anchored in Your multiplied, yet single, imagination. We are all One.

Unison Prayer for Forgiveness

God, have mercy on us. We hear your word. We believe we learn and know your word. But, Forgiver, we do not always live your Word. And, sometimes, when think we are living your word, we brag about what we have done. Help us reflect on your word in ways that bind it in our hearts and minds. Forgive us for our attempts and continue to lead us to authentic action. God, have mercy on us.

Silence is kept.

Assurance of Pardon

In the Name of Jesus! In the Name of Jesus! We have the victory! We know you hear our prayers. We know you meet us where we are. We trust in your mercy and know that we are saved! Always. Amen.

Hymn

Stand by Me

Please stand as you are able.

By Charles Albert Tindley

Scripture Lesson

Luke 8: 26-39

Nora Jones, Liturgist

Hymn #575 VU

I'm Gonna Live so God Can Use Me

(see insert)

The Message

Lord, Make a Way Out of No Way

Martha L. Wharton, Member

Hymn # 514 NCH

Over My Head

~ please stand as you are able ~

Please consider making an offering through on-line giving or mail your check to the Church address. You can find all that information on our church web page: first-ststephens.org. You may also place your offering in the offering plate in the back of the sanctuary.

Prayer of Dedication

~ in unison ~

God of us all, we give our time, talents, and treasure, but we often forget that we have even more to give. Help us uncover our deepest gifts. Open our hearts so wide that we cannot help but share these, heretofore, hidden gems with the world beyond our homes and church. As those created in your image, we ask your help to find it within ourselves to be more like you – open to love, open to truth, and open to seeing and loving others as we love ourselves and our kin. In Jesus name we pray, Amen.

Hymn for sending

#526 NCH

We are Marching in the Light of God

SIYAHAMBA

Benediction

Rev. Sisson

Postlude



“It is not taboo to go back for what you forgot (or left behind).”



“No one should bite another. A symbol of justice, fair play, freedom, peace, forgiveness, unity, harmony, and the avoidance of conflict or strife.”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Many Thanks to Martha Wharton for creating the liturgy and offering the message today for Juneteenth. Thanks also to Taylor Ramage for playing guitar.

Next Sunday is PRIDE Sunday. Wear your PRIDE, and be present as we celebrate the full inclusion of all people in our faith community.

Other PRIDE activities:

- + **Baltimore PRIDE Parade** – Walk (or ride!) with First and St. Stephen’s and Faith Communities of Baltimore with PRIDE on Saturday, June 25th at 1 p.m.
 - o! We need to be lined up in the area of North Charles St. and 33rd by 12:30p.m.
 - o! Wear your FCOBWP or other PRIDE colors, accessorize, and plan to be part of the largest group marching together in the parade.
If you have ‘throws’ (beads or hard candy), you may drop them off at the pastor’s front porch, or bring them with you to the parade.
 - o! If you need to ride vs. walk, please tell Kelly *today!* We have limited spacing for riders, and requests from other churches for those spaces.
- + After worship on Sunday until **5p.m.** – **PRIDE in the Park** at Druid Hill Park.
- + Tuesday, **June 28th – 7p.m.** **Interfaith PRIDE Service** at St. Mark’s Lutheran Church -- 1900 St. Paul Street, Baltimore.

ACTC – for the next few weeks, we’ll collect **bottled water**. Please fill the red wagon on Sunday with donations so that we can deliver generously on Mondays. You can always drop off on the porch at 535 Brook Rd. Towson.

If you want to **speak with the pastor**, it is best to leave a message on her home phone number: 410-832-3974. Or, you can email: fssuccpastor@gmail.com

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

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

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