

**Jan Hus Presbyterian Church & Neighborhood House**  
**The First Sunday after Christmas, December 27, 2009**



Nonviolence is the answer to the crucial political and moral questions of our time: the need for man to overcome oppression and violence without resorting to oppression and violence. Man must evolve for all human conflict a method which rejects revenge, aggression and retaliation. The foundation of such a method is love.

Martin Luther King, Jr., Nobel Prize acceptance speech, Stockholm, Sweden, Dec. 11, 1964.

**What do we believe?**

At Jan Hus Presbyterian Church, we share the following beliefs:

1. Jesus is Lord - the love, humility and self-giving of Jesus make him Lord.
2. The Bible is for both personal and social transformation. We interpret scripture with imagination and courage, without rigid literalism.
3. The church of Jesus stays close to the under-privileged peoples of this world and guards against self-righteousness and oppression.
4. Other religious traditions offer wisdom that we honor.
5. The victory belongs to Love; therefore, we are called to a lifestyle of hope, gratitude and service.

We are an inclusive church. At Jan Hus, we welcome people regardless of racial, ethnic, or economic background or sexual orientation into full participation of church life.

*“A Spiritual Home in the Real World”*

**Jan Hus Presbyterian Church & Neighborhood House**  
"Where you are welcome, long before you arrive."

Since 1888, the doors of this church have been open to those who seek a new way to engage with the Spirit and join together at the welcome table. In those early years, Jan Hus Presbyterian Church and Neighborhood House served the needs of the Czech immigrants who founded the church and named it after the 15<sup>th</sup> Century reformer and martyr Jan Hus. Today, our mission has expanded to include people from many different walks in life who want to share this stage of their journey with others in a God centered community. We continue to honor our Czech founders, however, by singing our closing hymn in the Czech language and in English.

Worship at Jan Hus is a time for us to affirm God’s vision for the world and witness the Gospel of Hope. We believe that God is greater than any human language or experience. For that reason and others, we embrace language that acknowledges God the Mother and God the Father. We hold fast to the tenets of the Reformation that call for the priesthood of all believers, therefore ours is a community pulpit, one in which we hear the Scriptures interpreted by both clergy and laity and that allows for a greater reflection of the community as a whole – a diverse expression of the presence of God in each believer and at the core of our collective experience. Sermons are conversations that give us an opportunity to hear how God’s voice speaks to each of us. Sermons may invite us into new ways of seeing and hearing God or deepen and affirm those beliefs we hold most true.

It is possible that Jan Hus may seem different than what you expect in church. That’s fine – our God loves to challenge us with the unexpected! Please know that you are most welcome here as one who carries God within you in all the ways you may know God. We are happy to have you with us and thank God for bringing us together on this day in which we celebrate Christmas and rebirth. Surely, we need the blessings of both.



\*Please stand if you are comfortable doing so.

*Prelude (Opening Music)*

**Call to Worship**

One: God that brings us together on this Sunday, joyful in a timeless way...

**Many: Lift us and our spirits, ever-rising and ever-closer to you.**

One: Mother/Father of all that was, is, and ever shall be...

**Many: Give us the vision to see each other, really *see* each other.**

One: Wonderful Counselor, whose name we know in many ways...

**Many: Lead us now and from here in the fullness of your teaching and justice.**

One: Spirit ...

**Many: Fill us with you: voice, song, prayer, and all!  
And come, let us worship God together, Amen.**

\* Hymn #484 "Sing with Hearts"

**Call to Confession**

Let us come to prayer...

**Unison Prayer**

God of compassion and love,  
we come here once more, seeking you.

We are here, today, in the glow of the celebration of Christmas;  
help us always to be a warm and loving place for others.

Guide us today and always so that we reach out to each others  
with resentments and jealousies gone.

Teach us through one another that we have more to share  
than conflicts and the chill of fear.

Move us always, closer to the *you* beside us  
as well as the *you* to whom we pray.

Amen.

**Silent Prayer**

\*Please stand if you are comfortable doing so.

**Sung Response**

You are our God, giver of mercy.

You are the Christ, giver of justice.

Spirit of love, giver of peace.

*Assurance of Forgiveness*

One: The good news is that God sees all we are, accepts us where we are, loves who we are, and offers forgiveness and healing. We can continue our journey together without fear.

**Many: Our thanks and praise to the God of life and hope!**

One: Friends, believe in the good news of the gospel!

**Many: God's grace dwells among us!**

One: Let us greet each other, with joy and love!

*Greeting Each Other*

*Prayer for Illumination*

One: Be with us, O God, as we listen to the words of those people whose stories tell the presence of your love and wisdom for all the ages.

**Many: Guide us, O God, in our reflection so that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, in your will discover peace, and in your love find our salvation.**

\*Please stand if you are comfortable doing so.

**First Reading: Colossians 3:12-17**

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

**Gospel Reading: Luke 2:41-52**

Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

\*Please stand if you are comfortable doing so.

*Sermon:* "Where do we go from here?"

Ray Bagnuolo

**Hymn #299** "Amen, Amen"

*Preparing for the Offering*

**One:** In this world, someone has too much.

**Many:** **Someone has barely enough, someone has nothing at all.**

**One:** When we share our commitment and financial support, we act on the imagination of Jesus.

**Many:** **Jesus, who sees enough bread to go around, enough courage to speak the truth, and enough love to overcome all things.**

**One:** O God, to those of us who have hunger, give bread. And to those of us who have bread, give the hunger for justice.

**Many:** **When the 5,000 were hungry, the disciples came to Jesus and said: "Send the people away, so they may get something to eat."**

**One:** Jesus answered: "You give them something to eat."

*Offertory Music*

**Announcements**

**Prayers of the People**

*The Prayer that Jesus Taught Us (Unison)*

**Our Mother/Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day, our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

**\*Closing Hymn #23 "Angels We Have Heard on High"**

\*Please stand if you are comfortable doing so.

*Benediction*

**Sung Blessing (in English or Czech)**

Christians rise and act your creed,  
Let your prayer be in your deed;  
Seek the right, perform the true,  
Raise your work and life anew.  
Come then law divine and reign,  
Freest faith assailed in vain.  
Perfect love, bereft of fear,  
born in heaven and radiant here. Amen.

Amen to pozehnani prijdiz na nas vsecky,  
Abychom po skonani vesli v raj nebesky,  
A tam s angelskou risi, boha take ctilli,  
Dejz nam to; o Jezisi, spasitely mily.  
Amen.

One: Go in peace to love and serve God! Many: Thanks be to God!

**Postlude (Closing Music)**



Please remember our families, friends, and concerns in your prayers.

- José Reyes returning from Puerto Rico following the passing of his mother
- Jerry Brody, making progress he recovers from back illness.
- For all the soldiers all over the world and their families; for the sick and those without permanent housing; for those without jobs.
- Essie Rance, Allison Bombard, and Alicia Martin-Schutz, as they travel and return from travels.
- Others prayers you bring with you this morning...

**Announcements**

**Outreach Program Needs Your Help!** We are in need of men's pants and coats. Please check your closets and do whatever you can to help us. Please pass the word along to your friends or at work and anywhere else. More information on [www.janhus.org](http://www.janhus.org)

**Annie Rawlings** will preach next Sunday, January 3, 2009

**Church Offices are Closed on Monday, December 28, 2009**

\*Please stand if you are comfortable doing so.

# JAN HUS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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**THE SESSION**

Kerry Flynn, Gary Ireland, Deborah Widerkehr

**THE DEACONS**

Gina Lee, Essie Rance

**THE STAFF**

Ray Bagnuolo

Pulpit

Marissa Arterberry

VISTA Intern

Ray Bagnuolo

Stated Supply Pastor/Head of Staff

Herman Brown

Custodian

Brian Carreira

HOAP Outreach

Drew Paton

HOAP Outreach

David Kelley

Social Worker

Stanley M. Kusz

Sunday Hospitality (Light Lunch Preparation)

Christian McLeer

Music Director

Karl Kaminsky

Musician

Jeremiah Freideric

Musician

Holly Nedelka

Director, Child's Play

José Reyes

Building Superintendent

Carol Schachter

Church Administrator

Gerard D. Shaw

Hospitality

**THE RESIDENT STAFF**

Allison Bombard, Alicia Martin-Schutz,  
Gerard D. Shaw

**HUSSITE PETS**

All Welcome !

8,1,2,7,6,3,4,5

\*Please stand if you are comfortable doing so.