

**Jan Hus Presbyterian Church & Neighborhood House**  
**The Second Sunday after Christmas – January 3, 2010**



“The greatest gift is a portion of thyself.”  
Ralph Waldo Emerson

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**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 were welcome, long before you arrived.”

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...



\*Please stand if you are comfortable doing so.

*Prelude:        The Long and Winding Road*

*Call to Worship*

One:    This is the day that God has made.

**Many: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

One:    This is a place where we gather as God's people.

**Many: A space for encounter on our journeys of faith.**

One:    We come to share the light and the struggle.

**Many: We walk the road toward God together.**

One:    Just as three wise men brought gifts to the newly born Christ child

**Many: We offer each other gifts of presence and witness.**

**Hymn: #66    We Three Kings of Orient Are**

*Call to Confession*

One:    With open hearts, let us speak together our rethinking, our hope for the new life

that every day, every moment, brings.

*Prayer of Confession*

**Many: Loving God, your light and love comes through us; we are your gifts to each other. It is easy to hold back: out of fear, out of sadness, out of a sense of unworthiness. Grant us courage. It is easy to not make space for the gifts of others. Open us to those around us. Where we are hard-hearted, melt us with your love. Where we are hard-headed, heal us with your grace. Help us walk together towards you.**

*Silent Prayer*

*Sung Response*

You are our God, giver of mercy.

You are the Christ, giver of justice.

Spirit of love, giver of peace.

\*Please stand if you are comfortable doing so.

*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, loved and forgiven!

*Greeting Each Other, Loved and Forgiven*

*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.**

*First Reading:        Isaiah 60:1-6*

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Sovereign has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Sovereign will arise upon you, and God's glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Sovereign.

\*Please stand if you are comfortable doing so.

Gospel Reading:     *Matthew 2:1-12*

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

*Sermon:*                   “Gifts for the Road”                   Annie Rawlings

*Hymn:*                    *The Servant Song*

THE SERVANT SONG

Chord progression: Eb, Ab, Eb, Cm, Fm7, Bb

1. 6. Will you let me be your ser - vant, Let me be as Christ to you;  
2. We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, We are trav - 'lers on the road;  
3. I will hold the Christ-light for you In the night-time of your fear;  
4. I will weep when you are weep - ing; When you laugh I'll laugh with you.  
5. When we sing to God in heav - en We shall find such har - mo - ny,

Chord progression: Ab, Bb7/F, Eb, Ab, Eb, Fm, Ab, Bb7, Eb

1. 6. Pray that I may have the grace to Let you be my ser - vant, too.  
2. We are here to help each oth - er Walk the mile and bear the load.  
3. I will hold my hand out to you, Speak the peace you long to hear.  
4. I will share your joy and sor - row 'Til we've seen this jour - ney through.  
5. Born of all we've known to - geth - er Of Christ's love and ag - o - ny.

- 1. & 6. Will you let me be your servant, Let me be as Christ to you;  
Pray that I may have the grace to Let you be my servant, too.
- 2. We are pilgrims on a journey, We are travelers on the road;  
We are here to help each other Walk the mile and bear the load.
- 3. I will hold the Christ-light for you In the nighttime of your fear;  
I will hold my hand out to you, Speak the peace you long to hear.
- 4. I will weep when you are weeping; When you laugh I'll laugh with you.  
I will share your joy and sorrow 'Til we've seen this journey through.
- 5. When we sing to God in heaven We shall find such harmony.  
Born of all we've known together Of Christ's love and agony.

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

Blessing the Offering

One: And the people reached in their pockets and pulled out the bread and the fishes and shared them, and there was abundance for all, and even more.  
Many: **Amen.**

Announcements

Prayers of the People

*The Prayer that Jesus Taught Us (Unison)*

**Our Mother/Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kindom 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 kindom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

\*Please stand if you are comfortable doing so.

Celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion & Invitation to the Lord’s Table

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

One All One

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Detailed description: This block contains musical notation for a prayer. It consists of three staves of music in 3/4 time, key of B-flat major. The first staff has a 'One' above the first measure and an 'All' above the last measure. The second staff has an 'All' above the first measure and a 'One' above the last measure. The lyrics are written below the notes.


One: It is right, and it is good, and it is joyful to give thanks to you, God of mystery and miracle. And so we sing your praise, joining our voices to all who sing on earth and to the whole company of heaven:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord; God of pow-er and might. Heav-en and earth are full of your glo - - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Ho-san -na in the high-est! Ho-san -na in the high - est! Blest is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Ho - san - na in the high-est! Ho - san - na in the high - est!


Detailed description: This block contains musical notation for a hymn. It consists of five staves of music in 3/4 time, key of B-flat major. The lyrics are written below the notes.

\*Please stand if you are comfortable doing so.


**All:**       **Remembering him,  
we take this bread and wine,  
Gifts of the good earth,  
Offering ourselves as a sacrifice of praise  
While we sing for joy:**



Christ has died, Christ is ris-en, Christ will come a - gain. —



— Ho - san - na in the high - est! Ho - san - na in the



high - est! Ho - san - na in the high - est! —

One: Pour out your Holy Spirit on your children gathered here and on these gifts – bread and wine of earth to body and blood of heaven... our frail flesh and blood to your holy people, that we might show Christ to your world. For this world we pray

**All:** **By your Spirit make us one with Christ,  
one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world,  
until Christ comes once again and we feast at his heavenly table.**

**Words of Institution**

**Blessing the Elements**

**Sharing of the Elements - All are invited.** *We pass the elements to each other, saying: "The bread of life," and "the cup of blessing." We dip the bread in the cup.*

**Prayer after Communion (Unison)**

Most gracious God, source of all blessing, we give you thanks for inviting us to share this meal as your family. Strengthen us to be a blessing to one another and to all people, glorifying you in everything we do and say, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*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 stand if you are comfortable doing so.

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

*From our prayer and petition board...*

- José Reyes and his family
- Our friends, the young folk and those who care for them at Ronald McDonald House
- Chong Martin with terminal larynx cancer; U.J.'s move
- Iris Moses, health and well-being, peace of mind.



### 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)

**Musicians!** Christian McLeer, John O'Brien, and Karl Kaminski

### Wed., 1/6 Epiphany of Jesus:

The word epiphany comes from the Greek noun *epiphaneia*, which means "shining forth," "manifestation," or "revelation." In the ancient Greco-Roman world, an epiphany referred to the appearance of one of the gods to mortals. Since Hellenistic kings and Roman emperors were considered by many to be gods, the word epiphany was also used as a term for divine majesty. The Epiphany of our Jesus is the Christian festival that celebrates the many ways through signs, miracles, and preaching that Jesus revealed himself to the world as Christ and God Incarnate.

**Thu., 1/7: National Book Launch:** A Conversation on Moral and Economic Recovery. Special Concert with Singer/Songwriter Joy Ike @ 6:30pm; Conversation Begins with Jim Wallis and Local Leaders @ 7pm Book Signing to Follow. The Riverside Church of New York City, 490 Riverside Drive, New York, NY 10027 More information at [www.janhus.org](http://www.janhus.org).

**Sat., 1/9:** 1:00 P.M. Memorial Service for Arabella Meadows-Rogers, former Executive Presbyterian, at the Presbytery of New York City at Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church. All are welcome to attend.

**Sun. 1/10** 11:00 A.M. Worship Baptism of Jesus  
Readings: Isaiah 43:1-7; Psalm 20; Acts 8:14-17; Luke 3:15-17, 21-22  
1:00 P.M. Session Meeting

\*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

Annie Rawlings  
All the People

Marissa Arterberry  
Ray Bagnuolo  
Herman Brown  
Brian Carreira  
Drew Paton  
David Kelley  
Stanley M. Kusz  
Christian McLeer  
Karl Kaminski  
Jeremiah Frederick  
Holly Nedelka  
José Reyes  
Carol Schachter  
Gerard D. Shaw

Guest Worship Leader and Preacher  
Ministers

VISTA Intern  
Pastor  
Custodian  
HOAP Outreach  
HOAP Outreach  
Social Worker  
Sunday Hospitality (Light Lunch Preparation)  
Music Director  
Musician  
Musician  
Director, Child's Play  
Building Superintendent  
Church Administrator  
Hospitality

## THE RESIDENT STAFF

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

## HUSSITE PETS

All Welcome!

12,1,2,11,10,3,4,9,8,5,6,7

\*Please stand if you are comfortable doing so.