

**JAN HUS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH & NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE**  
**A CELEBRATION OF GOSPEL AND SOCIAL JUSTICE**

**THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST, JULY 24, 2011**



**Today, Same Gender Marriage becomes the law in New York State**  
**"Justice is what love looks like in action." ~Cornell West**

***Cherokee Wedding Prayer***

God in heaven above please protect the ones we love.  
We honor all you created as we pledge  
our hearts and lives together.  
We honor mother-earth - and ask for our marriage to  
be abundant and grow stronger through the seasons;  
We honor fire - and ask that our union  
be warm and glowing with love in our hearts;  
We honor wind - and ask we sail though life  
safe and calm as in our God's arms;  
We honor water - to clean and soothe our relationship -  
that it may never thirsts for love;  
With all the forces of the universe you created,  
we pray for harmony and true happiness as  
we forever grow young together.

***The Same-Sex Marriage Recommendations – from July 2010 & the 219 General Assembly***

The Louisville-based Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) would become the largest denomination in the nation to allow same-sex marriage if it follows a recommendation made Tuesday by a church legislative committee.

And another church committee, gathering for the church's weeklong legislative General Assembly in Minneapolis, recommended the church begin ordaining non-celibate gays and lesbians.

The assembly's committee on Civil Union and Marriage Issues voted 34-18 to change the definition of marriage in the church constitution to describe marriage as a covenant between "two people" rather than between "a man and a woman."

This "would recognize committed, lifelong relationships that are already being lived out by our members," said a committee statement...

The Committee on Civil Union and Marriage Issues voted Tuesday (34-18-2) to recommend to the full Assembly changing the definition of marriage in the Directory for Worship from "a woman and a man" to "two people."

Heeding the advice of the Advisory Committee on the Constitution, the committee agreed to replace "couple" with "two people" because, according to Advisory Committee on the Constitution representative Catherine McDonald, "couple" in some languages "automatically translates as husband and wife."

The committee also recommended approving an Authoritative Interpretation that gives ministers of the Word and Sacrament and commissioned lay pastors discretion over which marriage services they'll perform. Sessions may refuse the use of church property for wedding ceremonies of which they don't approve.

An Authoritative Interpretation requires no approval by presbyteries and does not amend the church's constitution. If it's approved this week in plenary session, it becomes effective immediately.

The other nine overtures the committee considered Tuesday were either not approved or were similar enough to the two recommended overtures that they were considered by the committee to be "answered" by those overtures.

Advocating for changing the church's language of who may marry, Laura Marsh, an elder from East Iowa Presbytery, said her church, First Presbyterian of Iowa City, decided that "until we are allowed to marry everybody, we aren't going to marry anybody. Is everybody happy? No. But there's been no mass exodus, and we didn't implode. But we're urgently asking you to act."

Committee member the Rev. Marion Haynes-Weller of Donegal Presbytery called herself "a pastor of one of those small rural congregations we seem to be worried about. We are in a very conservative community but it's a congregation committed to welcoming (gay) members who are impatient with our lack of solidarity in standing with them."

Young Adult Advisory Delegate Paige Eubanks of Mid-South Presbytery said "My fear is that if we open up Scripture to interpretation, we compromise purity, we become susceptible to deception and this body, my family, will disintegrate."

Note: While 10-A was ratified in earlier this year. The recommendations on marriage never left the floor. The debate continues at the 220<sup>th</sup> General Assembly scheduled for July 2012 in Pittsburgh.

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: The prayers of many have been heard from here.  
**Many: We add our prayer to the many that have come before and will follow.**

One: We are indeed part of a long procession of prayerful and faithful people who seek God every day.  
**Many: It's good to know we are not alone, that the turmoil and trials we have faced have all found a welcoming respite in places like this.**

One: Let us raise our voices above our weariness; lift our prayers with the joy that is ours; and embrace the love of God that is freely given us.  
**Many: Yes, come, let us remember all these things as we worship God together in all the ways we know God.**

**HYMN #179 GOD IS MY STRONG SALVATION**

1. God is my strong sal - va - tion; What foe have I to fear?  
 2. Though hosts en - camp a - round me, Firm to the fight I stand;  
 3. Place on the Lord re - li - ance, My soul, with cour-age wait;  
 4. God's might thy heart shall strength - en, God's love thy joy in - crease;

In per - il and temp - ta - tion My light, my help, is near.  
 What ter - ror can con - found me, With God at my right hand?  
 God's truth be thine af - fi - ance, When faint and des - o - late.  
 Mer - cy thy days shall length - en; The Lord will give thee peace.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Sometime we do get tired. We get worn out. People don't live up to our expectations. We project the future as if some how we could know what it would be – and, too often, we project the worst. We worry. Get tired. Get worn out. We think nothing will get better, any time soon. And the heat doesn't help...

Still, even on the most uncomfortable of days, what is true is that you dear God are always with us. Like a cool refreshing spring, you wait for us to step in and feel the relief you offer us on the most uncomfortable of days.

Forgive us when we forget how close to us you are, how freeing you can be from what binds us, most often our own self-centered fears. Remind us how free, forgiven and blessed we are, so we can remind others of the same.

**A TIME FOR SILENT PRAYER**

**RESPONSE HYMN # 322 SPIRIT OF THE LIVING GOD**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me;  
spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.  
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.  
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

**ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE & FORGIVENESS**

And so it is. Free and forgiven we are. Let us share that with all in your name, by all the names we know you. **Amen.**

**\*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

In the freedom and blessing of God's abundant love, may the peace of Christ be with you all!

**And also with you.**

Let us now offer one another a sign of peace.

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Let the words we hear fill us with knowledge your will and the power to carry it out. **Amen.**

**FIRST READING: GENESIS 29:15-28** Laban said, "You're family! My flesh and blood!"

When Jacob had been with him for a month, Laban said, "Just because you're my nephew, you shouldn't work for me for nothing. Tell me what you want to be paid. What's a fair wage?"

Now Laban had two daughters; Leah was the older and Rachel the younger. Leah had nice eyes, but Rachel was stunningly beautiful. And it was Rachel that Jacob loved.

So Jacob answered, "I will work for you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel."

"It is far better," said Laban, "that I give her to you than marry her to some outsider. Yes. Stay here with me."

So Jacob worked seven years for Rachel. But it only seemed like a few days, he loved her so much. Then Jacob said to Laban, "Give me my wife; I've completed what we agreed I'd do. I'm ready to consummate my marriage." Laban invited everyone around and threw a big feast. At evening, though, he got his daughter Leah and brought her to the marriage bed, and Jacob slept with her. (Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah as her maid.)

Morning came: There was Leah in the marriage bed!  
Jacob confronted Laban, "What have you done to me? Didn't I work all this time for the hand of Rachel? Why did you cheat me?"

"We don't do it that way in our country," said Laban. "We don't marry off the younger daughter before the older. Enjoy your week of honeymoon, and then we'll give you the other one also. But it will cost you another seven years of work."

Jacob agreed. When he'd completed the honeymoon week, Laban gave him his daughter Rachel to be his wife. (Laban gave his maid Bilhah to his daughter Rachel as her maid.) Jacob then slept with her. And he loved Rachel more than Leah. He worked for Laban another seven years.

### GOSPEL READING: ROMANS 8:26-39

Meanwhile, the moment we get tired in the waiting, God's Spirit is right alongside helping us along. If we don't know how or what to pray, it doesn't matter. God does our praying in and for us, making prayer out of our wordless sighs, our aching groans. God knows us far better than we know ourselves, knows our pregnant condition, and keeps us present before God. That's why we can be so sure that every detail in our lives of love for God is worked into something good.

God knew what God was doing from the very beginning. God decided from the outset to shape the lives of those who love God along the same lines as the life of the Son. The Son stands first in the line of humanity he restored. We see the original and intended shape of our lives there in him. After God made that decision of what God's children should be like, God followed it up by calling people by name. After God called them by name, God set them on a solid basis with God's self. And then, after getting them established, God stayed with them to the end, gloriously completing what God had begun.

So, what do you think? With God on our side like this, how can we lose? If God didn't hesitate to put everything on the line for us, embracing our condition and exposing God's self to the worst by sending God's own Son, is there anything else God wouldn't gladly and freely do for us? And who would dare tangle with God by messing with one of God's chosen? Who would dare even to point a finger? The One who died for us—who was raised to life for us!—is in the presence of God at this very moment sticking up for us. Do you think anyone is going to be able to drive a wedge between us and Christ's love for us? There is no way! Not trouble, not hard times, not hatred, not hunger, not homelessness, not bullying threats, not backstabbing, not even the worst sins listed in Scripture:

I'm absolutely convinced that nothing—nothing living or dead, angelic or demonic, today or tomorrow, high or low, thinkable or unthinkable—absolutely nothing can get between us and God's love because of the way that Jesus has embraced us.

**HOMILY** "EVERY WORD A PRAYER" **RAY BAGNUOLO**

**HYMN 286** GIVE TO THE WINDS THY FEARS

\*Please stand if you are comfortable doing so.

Page 5

1. Give to the winds thy fears; Hope and be un - dis - mayed:  
2. Through waves and clouds and storms God gent - ly clears thy way;  
3. Leave to God's sov - ereign sway To choose and to com - mand;  
4. On God the Lord re - ly, And safe shalt thou go on;

God hears thy sighs and counts thy tears, God shall lift up thy head.  
Wait pa - tient - ly; so shall this night Soon end in joy - ous day.  
So shalt thou, won - dering, own God's way, How wise, how strong God's hand!  
Fix on God's work thy stead - fast eye, So shall thy work be done.

### 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.**

\*Please stand if you are comfortable doing so.

Page 6

**ANNOUNCEMENTS: PLEASE VISIT [WWW.JANHUS.ORG](http://WWW.JANHUS.ORG) REGULARLY FOR UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Service of Ordination for Drew Paton**, Today, Sunday July 24<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 P.M. at Irvington Presbyterian Church, 25 North Broadway, Irvington, NY 10533

**Worship Committee Meeting:** Sunday, July 31 following worship.

**Composer's Voice Concert July 31, 2011**

Vox Novus in collaboration with the Remarkable Theater Brigade and Jan Hus Church is proud to present the Composer's Voice chamber concert. The Composer's Voice concert will present the music of Dave Wolfson, Ray Blue, Leslie deMelcher, Douglas DaSilva, and Greg Bartholomew, performed by Heather Thon, Ray Blue, Rebecca Ashe, and the Metropolitan Brass Quintet.

**Party & Celebration, Sunday August 14<sup>th</sup>** : Join us for a celebration of Drew's time with us and a commissioning as he leaves Jan Hus Presbyterian Church and Neighborhood House to go forward in his call to ministry as the installed pastor of St. Peter's in Spencertown, NY. All are welcome.

**Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup>: Communion Sunday:** Please plan to join us for worship on this day of remembrance and reflection. More information will be forthcoming.

**Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup>:** Homecoming worship and congregational meeting unfolding the plan ahead for Jan Hus Presbyterian Church and Neighborhood House

**Friday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>: Amazing Fund-raiser Celebration: Robin Strasser of Theater, Movie, and One Life to Life fame (and our friend and Beacon) and The Imperial Court and much, much, more...mark the date. You do not want to miss this one!**

**CHILD'S PLAY ANNOUNCES PROGRAMS:**

- Child's Play Summer Programs at Jan Hus Presbyterian Church & Neighborhood House
  - **Toddler Summer Playgroups:** Monday and Thursday from 9:30 A.M. – 11:00 A.M. June 13 – July 28<sup>th</sup>. \$25/Drop-in. More info: Holly Nedelka, Director at 212-879-2019, [childsplayNYNY@aol.com](mailto:childsplayNYNY@aol.com)
- Child's Play Fall Program at Jan Hus Presbyterian Church & Neighborhood House, September 12, 2011 – January 19, 2012:
  - **Mommy & Me Playgroups**, Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday 11:00 A.M.– 1:00 P.M. 2 – 4 year olds. Fee for 16 week term: Once a week \$350/family \$25/Drop-in.
  - **On My Own Drop-off Playgroup**, Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday 9:30 – 11:00 A.M. for Toddlers/Babies. Fee for 16 week term: Once a week \$560, Twice a week \$1000, Three times a week \$1500.
  - **Mandarin Language Class:** Monday 3:00 – 4:00 P.M, 4:00 – 5:00 P.M. Fee for 16 weeks \$450/child. More info: Holly Nedelka, Director at 212-879-2019, [childsplayNYNY@aol.com](mailto:childsplayNYNY@aol.com)
- Other Announcements

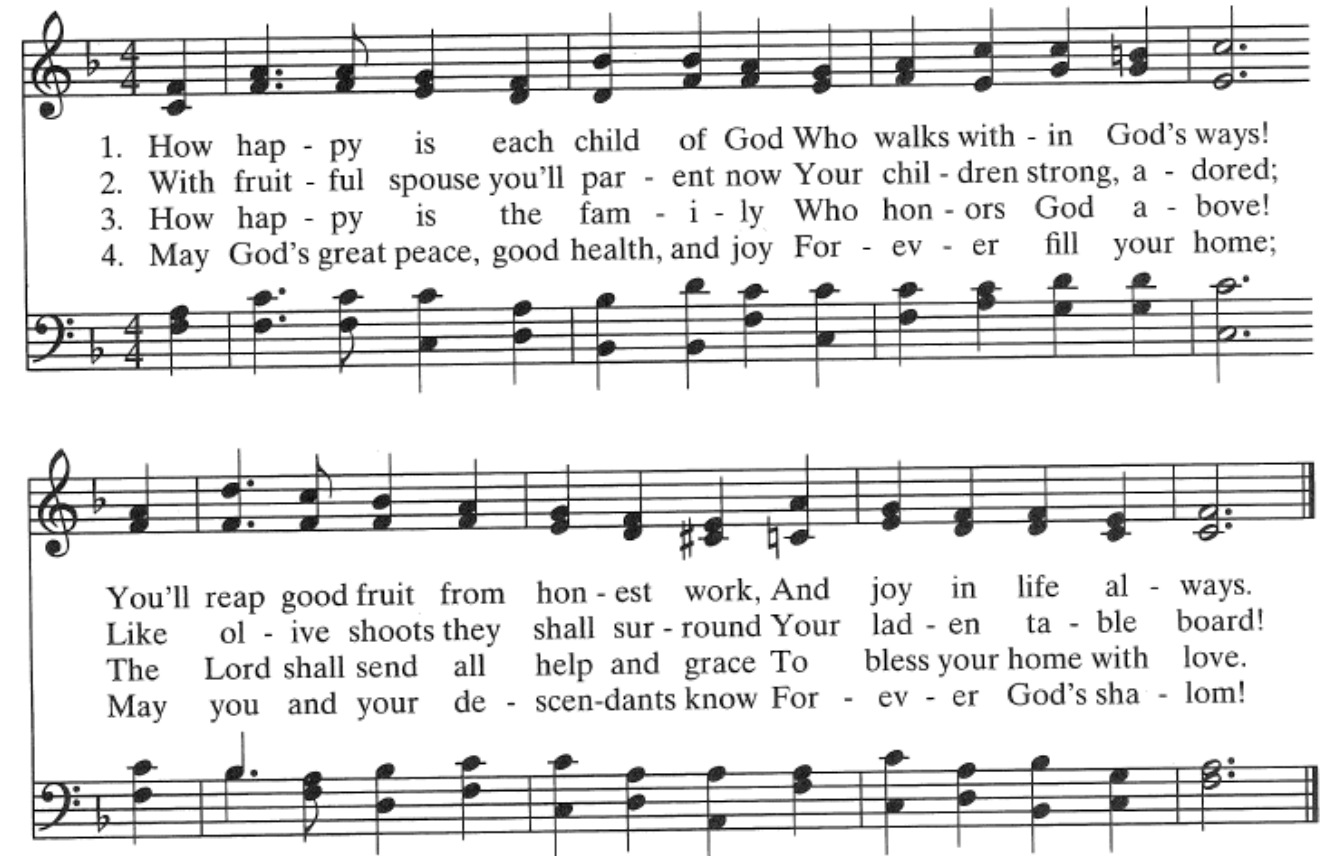
**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Your prayers...whether spoken or in silence, whether in word or murmur, or even yet to be known by you are all heard. The God who created us knows our prayers; still we need to ask for help. We need to hear our voices or quietest of thoughts ask God for help. Please, do so now for all you bring with you... *And now, with the confidence that God has heard us and our petitions, let us pray:*

**THE PRAYER THAT JESUS TAUGHT US (IN 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.**

**HYMN #239 HOW HAPPY IS EACH CHILD OF GOD**



## CHARGE TO THE PEOPLE

### 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.

### POSTLUDE (CLOSING MUSIC)

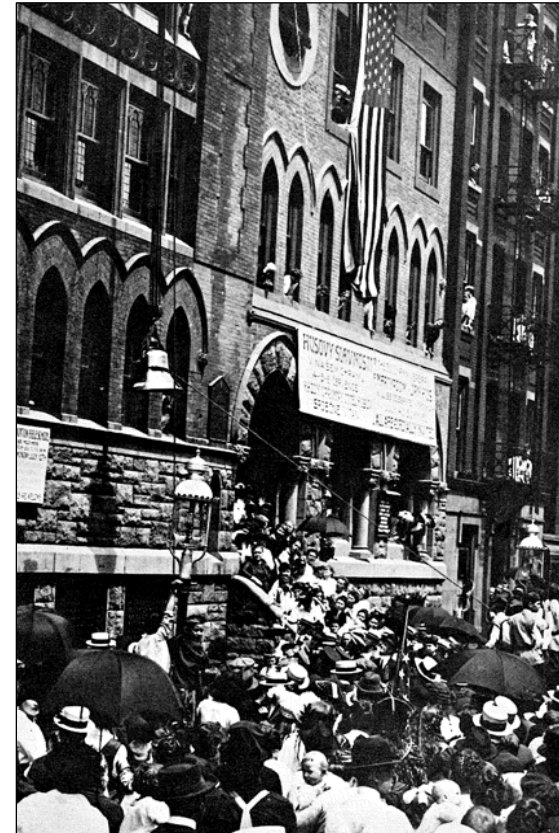
**PLEASE JOIN US FOR A LIGHT LUNCH FOLLOWING WORSHIP.**

**PLEASE WAIT UNTIL EVERYONE HAS BEEN SERVED BEFORE REFILLING YOUR PLATE.**

**WE LIKE ALL THE FOOD TO BE EATEN AND ENJOYED;**

**WE JUST WANT TO MAKE SURE WE HAVE ENOUGH TO GO AROUND. ☺**

## JAN HUS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH & NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE



Since 1888, the doors of this church have been open to those who seek a new way to engage with the Spirit and share at the table Jesus has set for us all. In those early years, Jan Hus served the needs of the Czech immigrants who founded the church and named it after Czech reformer and martyr Jan Hus.

Today, our mission has expanded to include people from many different walks in life; people who want to share this stage of their journey with others in a God centered community. We continue to honor our Czech founders, as well, by singing our closing hymn in the Czech language each Sunday.

Worship at Jan Hus is a time for the Body of Christ to affirm God's vision for the world and witness the Gospel of Hope. We believe that God is greater than human language or experience, and to more fully experience the wonder of God, 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 shared pulpit. This is a place in which we hear the Scriptures interpreted by clergy and laity, alike, reflecting our congregation and community as a diverse expression of the presence of God in each believer. We strive for sermons that are conversations which give us an opportunity to hear how God's voice speaks to each of us. Often, we are invited into new ways of seeing and hearing God, deepening and affirming those beliefs we hold most true.

It is possible that Jan Hus may seem different than what you expect in church, for surely God loves to challenge us all with the unexpected!

However you may find us, please know that you are most welcome here as one who carries within you the Spirit of God who loves us all. *Namasthe!*



**JAN HUS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH & NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE**

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THE SESSION: Kerry Flynn, Gary Ireland, Annie Rawlings, Del Shorter, Deborah Widerkehr

THE DEACONS: Essie Rance

THE STAFF

Ministers	All the People
Ray Bagnuolo	Stated Supply Pastor, Executive Director
Amy Conley	Volunteer Coordinator, HOAP Outreach
Drew Paton	Pastoral Assistant, HOAP Outreach
David Kelley	Supervisor HOAP, Sr. Social Worker, MSW
Stanley M. Kusz	Hospitality Minister, Assistant to Pastor
Edmund Leary	HOAP Outreach
Christian McLeer	Music Director
Karl Kaminski, Jeremiah Frederick	Musicians
Walter Marcus	Custodian, Hospitality
Holly Nedelka, Director	Child's Play; www.childsplaynyc.com
Jimmy Ortiz	Building Manager
Francis (Frank) Rocco	Chief Operating Officer
Carol Schachter	Comptroller/Church Administrator
Gerard D. Shaw	Hospitality Specialist

SPERVISED MINISTRY STUDENTS FROM NEW YORK THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY:

Cynthia Gardner-Brim Gloria-Jean Skeete

THE RESIDENT STAFF:

Lillie Grecco, Walter Marcus, Marvin Ramirez, Essie Rance, Annie Rawlings,  
Frank Rocco, Gerard D. Shaw

HUSSITE PETS:

Philpot, Madge, Sam, Bisou, Rocket Man, Spark Man, Lincoln, Besse Mae Mucho, Cadeau,  
Allie, & Marvin's Reptile Friends

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



**WE ARE A WELCOMING AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION  
AND NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE.  
ALL ARE WELCOME  
AND WELCOME TO FULLY WORSHIP AND SERVE IN THIS PLACE.  
ALL.**

*For more information on any of these announcements or  
if you have an announcement to share, please call Carol at 212-288-6743 or  
Email church@janhus.org*