

Meditation

“Work together, Fiyero found himself thinking, hardly aware he could have such a thought.

Work as a team – there are twelve of you and only one of him.

Is it your differences from one another that keep you docile?

Or are there relatives inside who will be tortured if you make a move for freedom?”

- From the novel *Wicked* p. 203

Welcome All to
JAN HUS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH & NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE
MAY 6, 2012
on this, the
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

PRELUDE

GATHERING & WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

Come to this vineyard of God.
We seek Christ, the vine of great love.

Drink from the waters of life.
We live in the light of God's grace.

Come to this vineyard of God.
All are welcome here.

Come. Let us worship God together!

***HYMN: ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA! HEARTS TO HEAVEN**

¹ www.ministrymatters.com *Call to Worship, Prayer of Confession. Words of Assurance - Variations*

1 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Hearts to heaven and voic - es raise;
2 Now the i - ron bars are bro - ken, Christ from death to life is born;
3 Christ is ris - en, we are ris - en; shed up - on us heav - en - ly grace,
4 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - ry to the God of joy;

Sing to God a hymn of glad - ness, sing to God a hymn of praise.
Glo - rious life, and life im - mor - tal on this ho - ly Eas - ter morn;
Rain and dew, and gleams of glo - ry from the bright - ness of your face;
Al - le - lu - ia to the Sav - ior who came death's bonds to de - stroy;

Je - sus on the cross as Sav - ior for the world's sal - va - tion bled;
Christ has tri - umphed, and we con - quer by God's lib - er - at - ing deed;
That we, with our hearts in heav - en, here on earth may fruit - ful be,
Al - le - lu - ia to the Spir - it, Fount of love and sanc - ti - ty;

But the cru - ci - fied Re - deem - er now is ris - en from the dead!
Now the Christ with us a - bid - ing to e - ter - nal life shall lead.
And by an - gel hands be gath - ered, and be yours e - ter - nal - ly.
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! To the Tri - une Maj - es - ty.

CALL TO CONFESSION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful One, you know when we are afraid to love, afraid to show mercy. Remind us again that it is perfect love, your love, that casts out any and all fears we might have. Strengthen and protect us with your love, even in the face of our shortcomings. Fill us with a love so strong that we cast aside our pride and embrace you in all those we see. Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS FOR RECONCILIATION

*Please stand if you are comfortable doing so.

RESPONSE: ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a pres - ent far too small;
love so a - maz - ing, so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the good news of God's love for us! God walks with us at all times. In God's presence and love, forgiveness and pardon is always present. Always.

GREETING EACH OTHER, LOVED AND FORGIVEN

Abiding in Christ's love, let us turn to one another and offer signs of forgiveness, love, and peace.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Abide within us, O Holy One. Transform us into branches of your love, bearing fruit that feeds and nourishes a world hungry for kindness and compassion. Strengthen us that we may grow in your likeness with courage and conviction. Live in us, that we may live in you, living as your abiding presence in the world. Let us find the meaning in these words of old and new that leads us in the direction of your love and guidance for us all. Amen.

FIRST READING: ACTS 8:26-40

Then an angel of God said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth." The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of God snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.'

SECOND READING: JOHN 14: 1-8

"I am the true vine, and God is the vine grower. God removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit God prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. God is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

SERMON *IT IS WHAT IT IS - NOT*

RAY BAGNUOLO

***HYMN 249: PEACE I LEAVE WITH YOU, MY FRIENDS**

John 14:18-29

Ray Repp, 1967

Refrain
D Em G D F#m
Peace I leave with you, my friends, sha-lom, my peace, in
Em Gm D Em G D F#m
all you do. Peace I leave with you, my friends. I give to
Bm Em G D 1-2 3
you so you can give to oth - ers, too.
D Em G D
1 To share God's love is why I came,
2 Take my hand and be at peace;
3 With this love now all will know
F#m Em/G Gm
to show God's kind - ness with - out end.
the spir - it of our love I send.
that lone - li - ness is at an end.

Go now, my friends, and do the same,
 And with this love you will be free,
 Re-joice, my friends, al-though I go,

un-til I come a-gain.
 un-til I come a-gain.
 for I will come a-gain.

to Refrain

PREPARING FOR THE OFFERING

In this world, someone has too much.
Someone has barely enough, someone has nothing at all.

When we share our commitment and financial support, we act on the imagination of Jesus.
Jesus, who sees enough bread to go around, enough courage to speak the truth, and enough love to overcome all things.

O God, to those of us who have hunger, give bread. And to those of us who have bread, give the hunger for justice.
When the 5,000 were hungry, the disciples came to Jesus and said: "Send the people away, so they may get something to eat."

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

OFFERTORY MUSIC

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all bles-sings flow; Praise God all crea-tures here be-low; Praise God a-bove ye heav'n-ly host; Cre-a-tor, Christ and Ho-ly Ghost. A-men.

BLESSING THE OFFERING

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. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Please stand if you are comfortable doing so.

THE PRAYER THAT JESUS TAUGHT US TO PRAY:

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.

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

HYMN: ONE BREAD ONE BODY

One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all,
 one cup of bless-ing which we bless. And
 we, though man-y through-out the earth,
 we are one bod-y in this one Lord.

1. Gen-tile or Jew, ser-vant or free,
 2. Man-y the gifts, man-y the works,
 3. Grain for the fields, scat-tered and grown,
 wom-an or man, no more.
 one in the Lord of all. One
 gath-ered to one, for all.

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE: ALL ARE WELCOME

Jesus said: I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry,
 And whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
 Lift up you hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give out thanks and praise.

*Please stand if you are comfortable doing so.

SANCTUS

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of God.
Hosanna in the highest.**

THE MYSTERY OF FAITH

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

We respond to the Bread: “the Bread of Life” and to the Cup: “the Cup of Blessing”

UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AFTER COMMUNION

God, our help and strength, you have satisfied our hunger with this Eucharistic food. Strengthen our faith, that through the death and resurrection of Jesus we may be led and guided into your presence and salvation, for all the days of our lives and beyond. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: LISTEN TO YOUR SAVIOR CALL

William Cowper, 1768; alt.

John 21:15-16

1 Lis - ten to your Sav - ior call, “Do you love me most of all?”
 2 “I de - liv - ered you when bound, and, when bleed - ing, healed your wound.
 3 “Mine is an un - chang - ing love, high - er than the heights a - bove,
 4 O my Sav - ior, hear my need: though my love is faint in - deed,

Je - sus speaks, and speaks to you: “Love me as I first loved you.”
 Sought you wan - dering, set you right, for your path - way gave you light.”
 Deep - er than the depths be - neath, free and faith - ful, strong as death.”
 Still I love you and a - dore— oh, for grace to love you more!

BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH

***BENEDICTION (English)**

(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 pozebnani 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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

JOIN US FOR COFFEE HOUR AND A LIGHT FELLOWSHIP MEAL: You are invited to join us immediately after worship for our Coffee Hour and a Light Fellowship Meal.

ALL ARE WELCOME HERE. We are a fully welcoming congregation that honors the great and wonderful diversity of God’s creation. We honor those who find themselves here and yet may follow a different faith tradition. We believe your presence and faith enriches our gathering. If you identify yourself as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender or in any other way that expresses your gender identity – you are welcome here and fully invited to participate in the work and worship of this congregation.

WEEKDAY WORSHIP AND MEDITATIONS:

Spiritual Conversations Wednesdays 2:15 – 3:00 P.M., in the sanctuary and led by Rev. Frank Rocco
Meditations Friday 9:15 – 10 A.M., in the sanctuary and led by Rev. Frank Rocco

MEMBERSHIP:

We are a small, family-sized congregation with less than 25 members. Yet, we are committed to our Homeless Outreach Advocacy Program and several other forms of outreach within our daily work at Jan Hus Presbyterian Church and Neighborhood House. We are seeking new members to be part of this congregation and bring your gifts in helping us in this vibrant and challenging ministry of Love and Justice, which we call Gospel. If you are interested in considering membership, please see me or anyone who looks like a member after worship.

JAN HUS PLAYHOUSE THEATER

Growing Up Gonzales, by Felix Rojas Limited Engagement www.growingupgonzales.com
Is That All There Is Sunday, May 6, 2012 2 PM. Reading of an original play by Dr. Rosalie Contino
Open Mic Night Every Sunday night. Bring your stand-up and your laughter! Doors Open 6 PM

JAN HUS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH & NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE

A WELCOMING AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION

351 East 74th Street , New York, NY 10021

Telephone: (212) 288-6743 Fax: (212) 879-0929

E-mail: church@janhus.org Email: greetings@janhus.org ; Website: www.janhus.org

Facebook: Jan Hus Presbyterian Church; Twitter @janhuschurch