

ORDER OF WORSHIP
SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
JANUARY 17, 2021
9:30 am

PRELUDE

Diapson Voluntary

Gordon Young

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

CALL TO SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION

HYMN #519 UMH
pg. 4-5

“Lift Every Voice and Sing”
Cathy and John Szymanski, Susan and Joe Gibbons, *Hymn Leaders*

LIFT EVERY VOICE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Conny Griesshammer, *Reader*

Sisters and brothers, rejoice.

We live sustained by God’s presence and love.

Thanks be to God.

As we mourn the wounds of God’s children,

God weeps with us.

As we give thanks for brothers and sisters who have lived in faith,

God give thanks with us.

As we struggle for justice,

God struggles with us.

As we strive for peace,

God strives with us.

As we work to build the beloved community,

God works with us.

As we offer our gifts to all,

God blesses us.

Sisters and brothers, rejoice.

Sustained by God’s presence and love

we worship God.

- posted on the Presbyterian Church USA website

CHILDREN’S TIME

Rev. Amy Bruch

THE LORD’S PRAYER (*Debts*)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen

SHARING OUR GIFTS

†THE DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him* all creatures here below; praise Him* above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost Amen**

*You may substitute God/Her **You may substitute Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 15: 32-39

Conny Griesshammer, *Reader*

pg. 2

ANTHEM

Precious Lord, Take My Hand
Sue and Charlie Wilkinson, *Duet*

arr. Jack Schrader

READING

Eusebius, *Vita Constantini* 3.15Conny Griesshammer, *Reader*

pg. 2

VIDEO

“If I Had Sneezed”

SERMON

“A Tale of Two Meals”

Martin Riekert

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS

CALL TO SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION

PASTORAL PRAYER

†HYMN #375 UMH

“There Is a Balm in Gilead”

BALM IN GILEAD

pg. 6

Cathy and John Szymanski, Susan and Joe Gibbons, *Hymn Leaders*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

In Praise of Freedom

Franklin Ritter

Scripture Reading**Matthew 15: 32-39**

³² Then Jesus called his disciples to him and said, “I have compassion for the crowd, because they have been with me now for three days and have nothing to eat; and I do not want to send them away hungry, for they might faint on the way.” ³³ The disciples said to him, “Where are we to get enough bread in the desert to feed so great a crowd?” ³⁴ Jesus asked them, “How many loaves have you?” They said, “Seven, and a few small fish.” ³⁵ Then ordering the crowd to sit down on the ground, ³⁶ he took the seven loaves and the fish; and after giving thanks he broke them and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ³⁷ And all of them ate and were filled; and they took up the broken pieces left over, seven baskets full. ³⁸ Those who had eaten were four thousand men, besides women and children. ³⁹ After sending away the crowds, he got into the boat and went to the region of Magadan. ^[a]

A Reading from John Dominic Crossan’s book *The Historical Jesus* p. 424***A description of the imperial banquet celebrating the conclusion of the Council of Nicaea***

Detachments of the body guard and troops surrounded the entrance of the palace with drawn swords, and through the midst of them the men of God proceeded without fear into the innermost of the Imperial apartments, in which some were the Emperor’s companions at table, while others reclined on couches arranged on either side. One might have thought that a picture of Christ’s kingdom was thus shadowed forth, and a dream rather than reality. (Eusebius, *Vita Constantini* 3.15; Brown 1982: 16)

Lift Every Voice and Sing

1. Lift ev - cry voice and sing, till earth and heav - en ring,
 2. Ston - y the road we trod, bit - ter the chas - tening rod,
 3. God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent tears,

ring with the har - mo - nies of lib - er - ty;
 felt in the days when hope un - born had died,
 thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;

let our re - joic - ing rise high as the lis - tening skies,
 yet with a stead - y beat, have not our wea - ry feet
 thou who hast by thy might led us in - to the light,

let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea.
 come to the place for which our fa - thers sighed,
 keep us for - ev - er in the path, we pray.

WORDS: James Weldon Johnson, 1921
 MUSIC: J. Rosamond Johnson, 1921

© 1921 Edward B. Marks Music Company, renewed

LIFT EVERY VOICE
 In.

STRENGTH IN TRIBULATION

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
 We have come o - ver a way that with tears has been wa - tered;
 Lest our feet stray from the plac - es, our God, where we met thee;

sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has brought us;
 we have come, tread - ing our path thru the blood of the slaugh - tered,
 lest our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we for - get thee;

fac - ing the ris - ing sun of our new day be - gun,
 out from the gloom - y past, till now we stand at last
 shad - owed be - neath thy hand, may we for - ev - er stand,

let us march on till vic - to - ry is won.
 where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.
 true to our God, true to our na - tive land.

375 There Is a Balm in Gilead

Refrain

There is a balm in Gil - e - ad to
 make the wound-ed whole; there is a balm in
 Gil - e - ad to heal the sin - sick soul. *Fine*

1. Some - times I feel dis - cour - aged, and
 2. Don't ev - er feel dis - cour - aged, for
 3. If you can't preach like Pe - ter, if

think my work's in vain. But then the Ho - ly
 Je - sus is your friend, and if you look for
 you can't pray like Paul, just tell the love of

WORDS: Afro-American spiritual (Jer. 8:22)
 MUSIC: Afro-American spiritual; adapt. and arr. by William Farley Smith, 1986

BALM IN GILEAD
 Irr.

D.S.

Spir - it re - vives my soul a - gain.
 knowl - edge he'll ne'er re - fuse to lend.
 Je - sus, and say he died for all.

Senior Minister

Martin Riekert, 978 887-2101 select 1
cellphone: 978-998-2697
martin@topsfieldchurch.org

**Associate Minister
for Children & Youth Ministry**

Amy Bruch, 978 887-2101 select 2
cellphone: 339-368-0818
amy@topsfieldchurch.org

Music Director and Organist

Kim Karchenes, 978 887-2101 select 4
kimk@topsfieldchurch.org

Children & Youth Ministry Assistant

Kim Love
kimlove@topsfieldchurch.org

Communications & Office Manager

Wendy Colby, 978-887-2101 select 3
wendy@topsfieldchurch.org

Joyful Noises Preschool

Yvonne Beirne
joyfulnoisestopsfield@gmail.com

Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE, License # A-731893. All Rights Reserved.