



THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

for January 17, 2021

*Second Sunday after Epiphany &
The Celebration of the life and work of
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

I Still Have a Dream

*Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that.
Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.*
-Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Welcome

Rev. Pam Cochrane

Prelude

Give me Jesus
Ji Hye Jung

Traditional Spiritual arr. by Moses Hogan

Call to Worship

Leader: God of our ancestors and God of our dreams, we gather today to remember
That you have created us all in your image and in your likeness

All: And so, we still have the courage to dream the impossible.

Leader: We remember how you spoke in the darkness and created light

All: And so, we still have the courage to dream the impossible.

Leader: We remember the ways you have delivered your people through trials and tribulations since the
beginning of time right up until this present moment

All: and so, we still have the courage to dream the impossible.

Leader: You have comforted us through the middle passage, racism, segregation, stripped identities and
unjust laws

All: and so, we still have the courage to dream the impossible.

Leader: God you have been the guiding light along the paths of Hope and Love leading toward a
beloved community where all are equal and seen radically loved

All: and so, we still have the courage to dream the impossible.

**Together: We gather today remembering your presence amongst us and the call to do justice, love,
mercy and walk humbly with you and our neighbors.**

Prayer of Invocation

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
thou has brought us thus far on the way,
we invite your presence into our midst
as we pay tribute to all who have labored for justice, equity and love.
We pray that in this moment you would strengthen us to
continue to fight for the fulfillment of the dream that the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
so eloquently laid out on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial,
and all who labored with him. Help us to labor so that every valley is exalted,
every hill and mountain made low,
the rough places are plain, and the crooked places made straight
so that the glory of the Lord is revealed
and all flesh see it together.
Let your love guide us to see one another as fully human with diverse hues, colors,
and cultures and respected for the content of their character.
Let your spirit strengthen us for the fight of today and tomorrow
until all God's children can say with full conviction,
"Free at last. Free at last. Thank God All-Mighty, I'm free at last." Amen

Prayer of Confession (responsive, using bold print)

O God, we as broken creatures have fallen short of all that has been required of us. Whereas you looked at your beloved creation and said “it is good”, we have looked at that same creation and rejected its beauty and inherent goodness. We have looked at the color of one another’s skin and assigned beauty and worth based on its hue. We have felt the texture on one another’s hair and determined what is good and what is damaged. We have examined one another’s frame and labeled it as human or “other”. We have fallen short of being family and each other’s keeper but,

Deep in my heart, I do believe that we shall overcome someday.

We have ignored the cries of others as they seek justice from the oppressor and we told them to wait a little longer. We have hidden the wounds of the ghettos of our society in an attempt to showcase society’s beauty to the world. We have not fed the hungry, given drink to the thirsty, or shelter to the stranger because of how they looked or the inconvenience of their need, but

Deep in my heart, I do believe the truth shall make us free someday.

But, today is a new day full of opportunities to try again.

What was left undone yesterday can be completed today.

We can turn from the sins of neglect and dishonesty, and prayerfully move towards reconciliation and mutual respect.

The realization that *“we are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny, whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly”*,

forces me to be concerned about what happens to my neighbor. And So,

Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe we shall live in peace someday.

Assurance of Pardon and God’s Call

Today we proclaim “to the people of the United States of America and the nations of the world that we are not about to turn around.

We are on the move now.

Yes, we are on the move and no wave of racism can stop us.

We are on the move now.

The burning of our churches, the bombing of our homes or destruction of institutions will not deter or dissuade us.

We are on the move now.

Like an idea that has come, not even the march of a mighty army can halt us.

We are on the move now.

And we are on the move because The Spirit of the Lord God is upon us...To preach good tidings to the poor, to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and the opening of the prison to those who are bound.

We are on the move and we thank God for going with us.

Special Music

Swing Low, Sweet Chariot

Traditional Spiritual, arr. H.T. Burleigh

Kathy Gross, flute

Ji Hye Jung, piano

Children’s Message

Rev. Pam Cochrane

Prayers of the People

The Lord’s Prayer

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 trespasses,

As we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Offering and Dedication

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ whose pow'r uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Prayer of Dedication

God, we have acknowledged our weaknesses and our failed attempts at creating a just world for all, even with the best of intentions. Too often we see the world through a lens of scarcity. We look at all the things we do not have or we wish for something more. And yet, our faith tells us that even the smallest of intention, a gift given to you becomes enormous when placed in your hands. We dedicate our lives to you, and all we have. In your love, all people are recognized for their dignity, worth and belovedness, in you, justice will run down like water and righteousness like a mighty stream and peace will be for all. Amen

Scripture Reading—Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18, 1 Samuel 3:1-20

Linda Leonard

Message

"Shake Your Slumber"

Rev. Douglas Vooyo

Hymn

Here I Am, Lord

Daniel Schutte

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry,
All who dwell in dark and sin, my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them, whom shall I send?

CHORUS:

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me, I will hold your people in my heart.

2. I the, Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain,
I have wept for love of them, they turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them, whom shall I send? **CHORUS**

3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame,
I will set a feast for them, my hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide, till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them, whom shall I send? **CHORUS**

Benediction

Postlude

Somebody's Knockin' at Yo' Door
Ji Hye Jung

Traditional Spiritual arr. by Moses Hogan

*This service quotes from **Our God is Marching On**, and **Letter from Birmingham Jail**, by Martin Luther King, Jr. Lines quoted from **We Shall Overcome #570 The New Century Hymnal**, and **Lift Every Voice and Sing #593 in The New Century Hymnal I Still have a Dream: Service Prayer for Martin Luther King Jr Weekend 2020**, was written by the Rev. Trayce Potter, Minister for Youth and Young Adult Engagement, Faith Education, Innovation and Formation Team (Faith INFO) UCC.

*The altar flowers this Sunday are in loving memory of
Elaine R. Leon
Given by Lynne & Alden Duffill*

Announcements & Events

Sunday, Jan 17 at 10am: *Second Sunday after Epiphany & MLK Service*

Monday, Jan 18 at 7pm: *DTP Church Discussions on Zoom*

Tuesday, Jan 19 at 10am: *DTP Church Discussions on Zoom*

Tuesday, Jan 19 at 7pm: *World Service Meeting on Zoom*

Wednesday, Jan 20 at 6:30pm: *Nursery School Meeting on Zoom*

Thursday, Jan 21 at 7pm: *DTP Church Discussions on Zoom*

Friday, Jan 22 at 11am: *DTP Church Discussions on Zoom*

Sunday, Jan 24 at 10am: *Third Sunday after Epiphany Worship*

Tuesday, Jan 26 at 7pm: *Trustees Meeting on Zoom*

Sunday, Jan 31 at 10am: *Fourth Sunday after Epiphany Worship*

Email the Church Office for the Zoom meeting links: info@maplestreetchurch.org

The deadline for the next *Inspire* is **Friday, January 22nd**.

This issue will cover February-April. Please email your submissions to: info@maplestreetchurch.org

