



PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
OF THE ROSES

Reaching Out with Nurturing Love to All People

**“OUR LIVES BEGIN TO END
THE DAY WE BECOME SILENT
ABOUT THINGS THAT MATTER...**

**THE ULTIMATE TRAGEDY IS NOT THE
OPPRESSION AND CRUELTY BY THE
BAD PEOPLE**

**BUT THE SILENCE OVER THAT BY THE
GOOD PEOPLE...**

**IN THE END, WE WILL REMEMBER
NOT THE WORDS OF OUR ENEMIES,
BUT THE SILENCE OF OUR FRIENDS.”**

—MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

January 31, 2021

ZOOM Worship 10:00 am

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE "No. II Zehn Trios Op. 49" by Joseph Rheinberger

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP —based on Luke 4:18

Leader: God's spirit is upon us.

People: **God chooses us to preach the good news to the poor.**

Leader: God sends us forth to announce freedom to all who are prisoners,

People: **Recovery of sight to the blind,**

Leader: To set the burdened and battered free.

All: **Let us share God's love and mercy with all. Let us worship God!**

*HYMN #799 "I Love the Lord, Who Heard My Cry" African Am. Spiritual

*I love the Lord, who heard my cry
and pitied every groan.*

*Long as I live and troubles rise,
I'll hasten to God's throne.*

*I love the Lord, who heard my cry
and chased my grief away.*

*O let my heart no more despair
while I have breath to pray.*

*CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

(There are 21-30 million people around the world who are victims of human trafficking in a \$150 billion industry. Let us together ask for God's forgiveness for the times we have not sought justice and defended the oppressed.)

Lord, we confess that oppression and injustice sometimes overwhelm us. We are guilty of not seeing those who are trapped in sex trafficking industries. It is easy to believe we cannot make a difference. Often victims of forced labor make the products we buy. Forgive us our sins of lack of awareness of those who suffer and for the times we let our fears lead us into silence.

Help us to build safe communities that prevent and protect as well as promote justice for those who are in bondage. In Jesus 'name. Amen.

WORDS OF AFFIRMATION (unison)

Hear the good news of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called the children of God. We are blessed and redeemed through God's grace and mercy!

CALL FOR OFFERING

Joy Olsen

OFFERTORY

"Arioso"

by Alexander Schreiner

OFFERING PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Every good thing is a gift from God — the food we eat, the things we have, the time we spend, our whole lives. We give our lives back to God as a way of saying thank you — sharing money with those who are in need, giving food to those who are hungry, and spending our time to help others. Amen.

—Book of Common Worship

HYMN #452 PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Open the eyes of my heart Lord, open the eyes of my heart!

I want to see you! I want to see you! (repeat)

To see you high and lifted up! Shining in the light of your glory!

Pour out your power and love, as we sing

Holy Holy Holy. Holy Holy Holy. Holy Holy Holy. I want to see you!

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Isaiah 61:1-3

Joy Olsen

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me,

because the Lord has anointed me;

he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,

to bind up the broken-hearted,

to proclaim liberty to the captives,

and release to the prisoners;

to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour,

and the day of vengeance of our God;

to comfort all who mourn;

to provide for those who mourn in Zion—

to give them a garland instead of ashes,

the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.

This is the Word of the Lord! **Thanks be to God!**

ANTHEM

"The Lord is My Light"

Christopher Walker

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: Acts 16:16-26

One day, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling.

While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, "These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation."

She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour. But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities.

When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, "These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe."

The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word! **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

Breaking the Chains

Rev. Dr. Cindy Alloway

*HYMN #796

"We Come to You for Healing, Lord"

American Folk Melody; Text by Herman G. Stuempfle Jr.

We come to you for healing Lord, of body, mind, and soul, and pray that by your Spirit's touch we may again be whole.

As once you walked through ancient streets and reached toward those in pain, we know you come among us still with power to heal again.

You touch us through physician's skills, through nurses' gifts of care, and through the love of faithful friends who lift our lives in prayer.

Through nights of pain and wakefulness, through days when strength runs low, grant us your gift of patience, Lord, your calming peace to know.

We come to you, O loving Lord, in our distress and pain, in trust that through our nights and days your grace will heal, sustain.

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE —based on Psalm 10:12

“The church stands against human trafficking and forced labor based upon its conviction that each person bears the image of God, or Imago Dei, and that work is both a necessity and a calling: “the laborer deserves to be paid.” (1 Tim. 5:18).

We may understand the image of God as the capacity for personal, covenantal relationship that gives all humans individual worth and responsibility to help redeem creation. The prophetic vision in Isaiah 65 presents a harmony of humanity within nature and without violence; Jesus' message of the kingdom or reign of God calls into question every structure that excludes or dominates others. We do not deny the degree of complicity that all of us share in the market system, but insist that human beings should never be treated as commodities.

Rescue us all Lord, from evildoers; protect us from the violent.

Rise up, O Lord; lift up your hand; do not forget the oppressed.

All they do is think up new ways to do evil and stir up war every day.

Rise up, O Lord; lift up your hand; do not forget the oppressed.

Keep us safe, Lord, from the hands of the wicked; protect us from the violent.

Rise up, O Lord; lift up your hand; do not forget the oppressed.

Don't let the wicked have their way, God; don't give them an inch.

Rise up, O Lord; lift up your hand; do not forget the oppressed.

I know that you, God, are on the side of the victims that you care for the rights of the poor.

Rise up, O Lord; lift up your hand; do not forget the oppressed.

Surely the righteous will praise your name, and the upright will live in your presence.

Rise up, O Lord; lift up your hand; do not forget the oppressed.

As we pray the prayer Jesus taught us saying: (The Lord's Prayer).

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 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.

HYMN #649

"Amazing Grace"

John Newton

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!

I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved.

How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come.

'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead my home.

*The Lord has promised good to me; his word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.
When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun, we've
no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.*

*BENEDICTION

Go out into the world and ask, "Who is my neighbor?"
By connecting with our neighbors, go and uphold the cause of the
oppressed. Break the chains of injustice.
Get rid of exploitation in the workplace.
Share your food with the hungry.
Invite the homeless and poor into your home.
Put clothes on the shivering.
May the God of love and grace give you peace. Amen

POSTLUDE

"Postlude #6"

by William H. Harrison

Preacher: *Rev. Dr Cindy Alloway*
Liturgist: *Joy Olsen*
Music: *Althea Wright, Myles Ellis*
Technology: *Norm Smith, Nico Wycoff*
Scripter: *Bajun Mavawalla II*

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please include in your prayers

*The family of Lucy Poindexter, as they mourn her passing on Oct. 24, 2020.

THOSE WITH HEALTH ISSUES

Especially our members, friends, and family who are recovering from Covid-19. May their health continue to improve.

Pastor Cindy Alloway	Janice Holmes	Susan Smith
Bill Beaumont	Carolyn Kenworthy	Sharon Sorani
Bob Bunting	Margret Kram	Alexis Sydnor
Patrick Butler	Vivian Mazeski	Shirley Walton
Peggy Call	Luu Maxwell	Bob Weber
Doreen Cowden	Jessica Morse	Jill White
Bob Crowell	Lynette Randerson	Roger White
Patricia Currier	Ruth Rossow	Helen Wikle
Dick Draper	Pamela Sage	Betty Witchey-Ryer
Danny Duchsherer	Debbie Seat	Betsy Yeager
Barbara Flannery	Bob Simmons	Avery Yudice
Marilyn Hilan		

THOSE SERVING IN OUR MILITARY

Sgt. David A. Dickens, USAF Jason Morse, Coast Guard Lt. Ian Alloway Culver, Lt. Col. David Trowbridge, M.D. is stationed at the Joint Air Force Base Elmendorf-Richardson in Anchorage, Ak and serves as a Cardiologist with the Alaska Native Medical Center, Chris Loranger serving in Afghanistan.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF THE ROSES

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OFFICE CLOSED DUE TO COVID-19 Hours: M/T/W 9-3pm, TH: 10-2pm

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