

**SERVICE OF WORSHIP
SECOND SUNDAY IN EPIPHANY
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. SUNDAY
JANUARY 16, 2022**

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE

CENTERING THOUGHTS UPON TODAY'S WORSHIP

God created all the races and nations of the world and willed that we live together in peace and harmony. We were made to be a family. There is strife in the human family; injustice abounds as racism, classism, sexism, cultural imperialism and other isms. We are a divided people. We have been called to let justice roll down like waters. We must work passionately to bridge the gulf between us, overcome the injustices that oppress us, and restore community among us. We must be determined enough to change what we can. We must have the courage to accept what we cannot change. Above all, we must be wise enough to know the difference.

WORDS OF WELCOME

CENTERING OUR HEARTS ON WORSHIP

* **OPENING HYMN: FOR THE HEALING OF THE NATIONS 576**

* **CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Pastor: God said: "How long will you judge unjustly and show partiality to the wicked?"

People: God said: "Give justice to the weak and the parentless child; maintain the right of the lowly and the destitute."

Pastor: God said: Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked."

People: God said: "I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. Take away the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your

harps. But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.”

Unison: Rise up, O God, judge the earth; for all the nations belong to you!

REJOICING IN GOD’S GRACE

*** CALL TO AND CONFESSION OF SIN:**

Most holy and merciful God: we have condemned racial injustice in our pronouncement, yet we cling to the privileges derived from social inequities. All too often we are blind to our complicity in maintaining systems of oppression and deferring the hopes and dreams of the oppressed for freedom. Give us the courage to name our sin, give us the strength to claim responsibility for our actions. Give us the grace to pay the price for changing our behavior. Through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

*** THE KYRIE**

750

Leader: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Congregation: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Leader: Christ, have mercy upon us.

Congregation: Christ, have mercy upon us.

Leader: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Congregation: Lord, have mercy upon us.

*** ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Pastor: Thanks be to God for the Spirit who lives in us. Praise be to God who is always working things together for good. We are loved. We are forgiven.

People: God is beyond us. God is between us. God is within us. Thanks be to God!

Pastor: O Lord, open our lips.

People: And our mouths shall show forth your praise.

Glory to the Creator, the Christ, the Holy Spirit, Three-in-One; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

* **THE SIGNING OF THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

LEARNING ABOUT GOD

MISSION MOMENT: *SOUPER BOWL OF CARING*

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON:

Old Testament: Micah 6:8

New Testament: Luke 10:25 – 37

THE CHILDREN’S SERMON

HYMN: *LET JUSTICE FLOW LIKE STREAMS*

588

SERMON: *Our Allentown Partners in Ministry*

The Caring Place

The Allentown Rescue Mission

Pathways, the Lehigh County Conference of Churches

DEDICATING OURSELVES TO GOD’S WILL

* **A LITANY OF THANKS AND PRAISE:**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give God thanks and praise. God of all ethnicities and nations, we praise you for all your faithful servants who have done justice, loved mercy, and walked humbly with their God. For apostles, martyrs, leaders, and saints and for humble folk whose names were never in the news, but are recorded in your book of life,

People: We give you thanks, O God.

Pastor: Especially this day we thank you for Martin Luther King, Jr., for his courage and conviction, for his passion for peace,

and for tireless quest of a nation that keeps faith with its promises,

People: We give you thanks, O God.

Pastor: For Coretta Scott King and the King family; for the memory of Martin Luther King, Sr. and Mrs. King; for Medgar Evers, Rosa Parks, James Meredith, Malcolm X, and countless others who stood in the front lines and marched, integrated schools and restaurants, or sat in buses and refused to move,

People: We give you thanks, O God.

Pastor: For nameless multitudes who suffered the tortures of slavery and the tyranny of oppression, who were beaten, raped, and lynched; and for the nameless multitudes today whose lives are stunted and cut short by economic and social structures of brutality.

People: We grieve and promise to work for justice, O God.

Pastor: And for your children, women, and men of ever ethnicity who are denied education, health care, jobs, housing, and hope in our land,

People: We grieve and promise to work for justice, O God.

Pastor: In the name of Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

Unison: Amen!

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND INTERCESSION

Pastor: You have created us to love; you have created us to be a community – a beloved community. You have created us to love and to value one another; to bring fairness and justice into all of what we do, into all of who we are. Thank you for young prophets, I might even call them *extremists*, for Coretta Scott King, for Dr. King, and other activists, for those young prophets today, in our world and in this church – who spoke and continue to speak truth about your vision for our lives – who speak

truth about privilege and injustice – who speak truth about hate and complacency – and who do something about it. God, we have all that we need to change the Church, to change this world. Awaken the prophetic call inside each of us to be advocates and activists for *all human rights* – empower all people to become “the soul of this nation.” Thank you for grace, and goodness, and strength, and life, and thank you for this day and this time, to be in community with one another.

(The names of specific people, places, and circumstances may be lifted up at this time)

Pastor: Gracious God, as you have promised, may it come to pass. We pray in Christ’s name and offer the prayer He offered;

Unison: 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.

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

THE FELLOWSHIP OF SHARING

CHOIR ANTHEM: *COME THOU ALMIGHTY KING*

*** OFFERTORY RESPONSE – THE DOXOLOGY 780**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, you heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

*** PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING:**

As we offer our treasure and hearts to you, O God, may they be used to pass on the promise of hope, of peace, of life, of

community to all in need of your gifts and presence in their lives. Amen.

GO IN GOD'S NAME

* **CLOSING HYMN: *WE SHALL OVERCOME***

570

* **BENEDICTION AND THREEFOLD AMEN**

* **MEDITATION**

Almighty God, grant that the words we have heard this day with our ears may be grafted into our hearts through your grace, that they may produce in us the fruits of a good life, to the praise and honor of your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

* **POSTLUDE**

*Would those who are able please stand.

CHOIR ANTHEM:

COME, THOU ALMIGHTY KING – Paul Taylor

Come, thou Almighty King, help us thy name to sing. Help us to praise: Father! all glorious, o'er all victorious, come and reign over us, Ancient of Days.

Come, Holy Comforter, Thy sacred witness bear, in this glad hour. Thou, Who almighty art, now rule in ev'ry heart, and ne'er from us depart, Spirit of power.

To the great One in Three, the highest praises be, hence evermore. His sov'reign majesty may we in glory see, and to eternity love, honor, praise, and adore!

Welcome to Faith Church this Second Sunday after Epiphany.

We are glad to have you worshiping with us. May our time together serve as an inspiration for the days and weeks ahead.

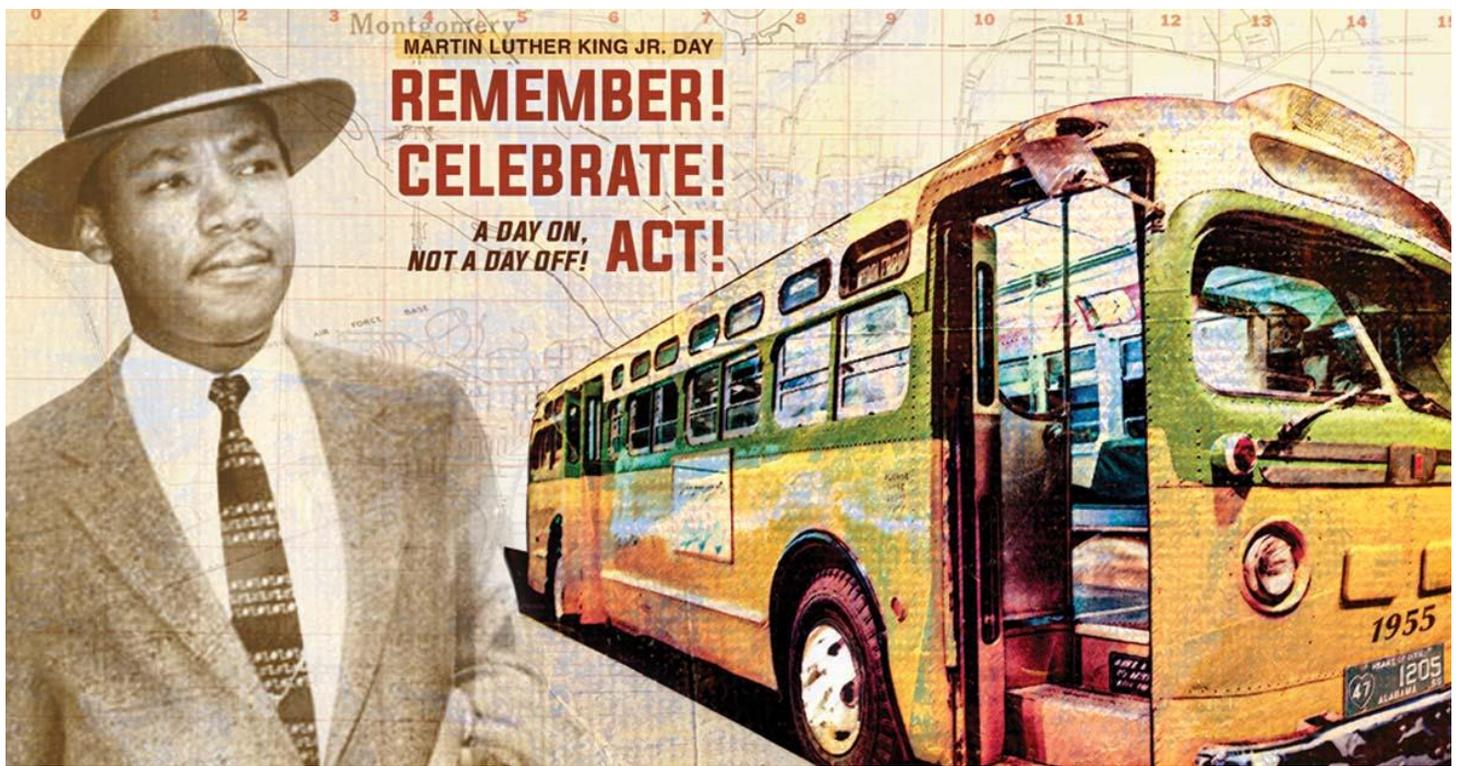
Special thanks to Chuck Talboo for sharing our mission moment this morning - *Souper Bowl of Caring*, and to our partners in ministry for sharing this morning's message:

- *The Caring Place*
- *The Allentown Rescue Mission*
- *Pathways, the Lehigh County Conference of Churches*

The church office will be closed tomorrow in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr Day.

If you brought along your loose change from last Sunday for Joyful Noise, please drop it in the pans in the Narthex.

Epiphany Communion will be celebrated during worship next Sunday, January 23rd.



On January 17, 2022, the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday will mark the 27th anniversary of the national day of service. This day was established to honor the life and legacy of Dr. King, and to encourage all Americans to volunteer to improve their communities.

Americans celebrated the first official Martin Luther King Day, which is the only federal holiday commemorating an African-American, on Monday, January 20, 1986. In 1994, Congress designated the holiday as a national day of service, and marking the third Monday in January every year as the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service - a "Day On, Not a Day Off."

Dr. King advocated for nonviolent resistance to overcome injustice as a means of lifting racial oppression. He created change with organized sit-ins, marches, and peaceful demonstrations that highlighted issues of inequality. Dr. King received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964; he was the youngest person to ever receive this high honor. He followed in the footsteps of his grandfather and father by

entering the ministry to become a Baptist minister. On April 4, 1968, at the age of 39, he was assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee as he stood on the balcony of his hotel. Dr. King traveled to Memphis, Tennessee to lead a march in support of striking sanitation workers.

We remember Dr. King as a husband, father, friend, and fierce advocate for the betterment of all people. Honor his memory by organizing, volunteering, and spreading the word. Remember to **MAKE IT A DAY ON, NOT A DAY OFF**, for you and those around you.

CALENDAR

Regular Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 9 am – 4 pm; Closed on Fridays

TODAY	-9:00 Sunday School -10:15 Worship
MONDAY	-Office Closed -MLK Day
TUESDAY	-1-3 Pastor's Meeting
WEDNESDAY	-5:30 Budget & Finance -7:00 Pastor's Meeting
THURSDAY	-Pastor will work from home in a.m.
SUNDAY	-9:00 Sunday School -10:15 Worship/Communion

Thank you to our volunteers...

1/16

1/23

Head Usher:	Becky Hite	Becky Hite
Ushers:	Caroline Frantz	Tim & Sara Hovis
Acolytes:		
Lay Reader:	Ron Demkee	Brenda Hovis
Altar Flowers:		Diane Neidermeier
Fin. Secretary:	Tom Hovis	Tom Hovis

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Director of Music: 215-361-8641; ddduda@verizon.net