



Sunday, January 16, 2022

Human Relations Sunday

“We stand for racial justice and equality”

Prelude

This Little Light of Mine

Velda Graham Bell, organ

American spiritual; arr. Calvin Taylor

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Jeanine Alexander

* Call to Worship

Mark Whitlock

One: It's coming – the Kingdom of God is coming! Let your Reign, O God, be acknowledged among all people.

All: **We stand on the threshold of truth. We are perched on the branches of justice. Across the horizon, we see the outline of peace and harmony.**

One: With privilege comes responsibility. With responsibility comes accountability. With accountability comes integrity. With integrity comes justice and equality for all.

All: **God, equip us to love fully and live faithfully in your Kingdom!**

* Hymn

Lift Every Voice and Sing

UM Hymnal #519

Children's Message

Jojo Coffin-Langdon, director of family ministries

Children may leave for Sunday School following the Children's Message.

Anthem

We Shall Be Free

Davis and Brooks

Tapestry and Sanctuary Choir;

Leah Hulst, Corey Hulst and Michael Goodlet-Meijer, directors

Scripture Readings

Mark Whitlock

Psalm 42:3-11

Day and night my tears are my only food, as everyone keeps asking, "Where is your God?" Sorrow floods my heart when I remember leading the worshipers to your house. I can still hear them shout their joyful praises. Why am I discouraged? Why am I restless? I trust you! And I will praise you again because you help me and you are my God. I am deeply discouraged as I think about you from where the Jordan begins at Mount Hermon and from Mount Mizar. Your vicious waves have swept over me like an angry ocean or a roaring waterfall. Every day, you are kind, and at night you give me a song as my prayer to you, the living Lord God. You are my mighty rock. Why have you forgotten me? Why must enemies mistreat me and make me sad? Even my bones are in pain, while all day long my enemies sneer and ask, "Where is your God?" Why am I discouraged? Why am I restless? I trust you! And I will praise you again because you help me and you are my God.

Sermon *Feel All the Feelings: Soul Reset #2*

Pastor Cynthia Coffin-Langdon

Morning Prayer

Prayer Song *As the Deer*

*As the deer pants for the water, so my soul longs after you.
You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you.
You alone are my strength, my shield; to you alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire and I long to worship you.*

Pastor Jeanine Alexander
The Faith We Sing #2025

Prayers of Concern and Celebration

Unison Prayer – from the Upper New York Conference of the UMC

Gracious God, every day we're confronted with language and images that remind us that racism is real, and its impacts are far reaching. Open our eyes to see racial stereotypes that oppress some of us while providing entitlement to others. Open our ears to recognize both unfairness and indifference; to hear even our own voices when we speak ignorance or ambivalence. Open our mouths to speak up when remaining silent is harmful. Open our arms to embrace one another, to carry each other's burdens, and to build bridges of understanding. Open our hearts so that we may fully receive your grace; point us toward your light so that we may more clearly understand your desires and vision for all humankind. We pray that in this new year we may remove the barriers that block us from seeing you clearly in one another, that divide rather than unite, and that keep us strangers rather than neighbors. Give us the courage to stand up against those injustices and to stand with those who are oppressed. Come, Lord Jesus, we pray. Amen.

Anthem *Sojourner's Prayer*

Cast in Bronze; Bill Alexander, director

Karen Lakey Buckwalter

Offering

Pastor Jeanine Alexander

* Hymn *Just a Closer Walk with Thee*

The Faith We Sing #2158

Benediction

Pastor Jeanine Alexander

Postlude *Soon I Will Be Done*

Velda Graham Bell, organ

American spiritual; arr. Calvin Taylor

* *Please stand as you are comfortable.*



Announcements

*Please fill out the Connect Cards each week. They are replacing the attendance pads formerly found in the pews. Keeping attendance and making sure the church has your current contact information is an important part of church records. **On the back of the card**, is a list of ministry opportunities, places where your help can make a difference! These will change often, so check them each week and please sign up where you can.*

***Visitors:** Welcome to First United Methodist Church. We are so glad you are worshipping with us today! Please stop by the Welcome Desk in the Narthex; we have a packet and small gift for first-time visitors.*

Due to the COVID surge, the "Refugee for 50 Minutes" interactive learning experience scheduled for this morning has been postponed. A new date will be announced later.

Join us for Faith Forum Sunday mornings 9:00-9:45 in the East Lounge. Next Sunday, January 23, Rev. David Tryggstad will talk about "Songs My Mother Taught Me: Learn From, Don't Ban Books that Make Us Uncomfortable."

FUMC has a ministry place for YOU. There are several open or new ministry areas needing your help:

Hospitality Team – to focus on welcoming for the church and community and all church/community food events.

Mission Team – to plan, organize and implement the mission and outreach of our congregation.

Set-up/Take-down Team – to provide help when we have large set-up and take-downs of chairs and tables. This team will not have meetings.

Finance Team – to oversee and plan the finances of our congregations. There are monthly meetings.

FUMC Foundation – to oversee and use the great resources of our Foundation. There is a quarterly meeting commitment. An orientation to the Foundation and its resources will be held January 11 at 5 pm on Zoom. Please attend to learn more: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5446347519>

Meeting ID: 544 634 7519

Trustees – to care for, maintain and improve our facility. Meetings are once a month, plus special projects.

If you have an interest in any of these ministry areas, please contact Pastor Jeanine, Cindy Hedlund (lay leader) or Mary Giese (director of welcome).

Thank you to Alex Flinner, Nick Gosen and the Livestream Team for making the online service possible.

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