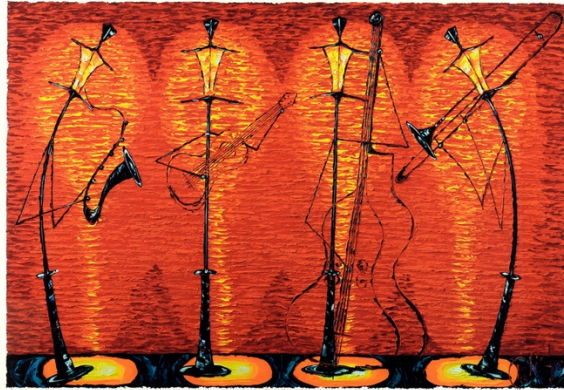


Use the following worship guide as we gather on Sunday morning via Zoom. Simply click here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2398495210>

** Announcements are at the end of this order of worship. **



The Service of Worship
First and St. Stephen's United Church of Christ
Baltimore, Maryland
Transfiguration Sunday – Year B
Quinquagesima Sunday/Mardi Gras Sunday

February 11, 2024

10:30 a.m.

Prelude *Deep River* Nancy Flandermeyer Chronister, Director of Music
Traditional American Spiritual arranged by Mark Hayes

Welcome The Rev. Kelly M. Sisson, Pastor

Lesson from the Hebrew Scriptures *2 Kings 2:1-12* Carol Berman, Liturgist

A Litany for Transfiguration ~ ~ congregation reads **bold print** ~ ~

We have seen the light of God;
on high mountains of celebration and in the ecstasy of a lover's embrace.

We have seen the light of God;
through the bitter scorn of betrayal and the searing chasm of grief.

We have seen the light of God;
with eyes that have been shaded, with eyes that have been opened, with eyes that have been blinded.

We have seen the light of God. The Holy came bathed in light, dazzling, radiant...
Forgive us, God for accepting mediocrity in your name and calling it good enough.

The Holy came appearing with Elijah and Moses...
Forgive us, God, for demanding exclusive expressions of faith even in the face of your expansive vision.

The Holy came while a voice was shouting, "this is my Beloved; listen!"
Forgive us, God for silencing the voice of the other struggling to praise your name.

Come! ... Come as they came bathed in light, shouting for all who have ears to hear...for all who have ears to hear ... Listen!

Hymn for Worship *When the Saints Go Marching In* Traditional
~ as you are able, please stand ~

**Oh, when the saints go marching in, Oh, when the saints go marching in,
Oh, Lord, I want to be in that number, when the saints go marching in!**

And when the sun shines bright and gold, and when the sun shines bright and gold,
Oh, Lord, I want to be in that number, when the sun shines bright and gold!

Oh, when the air is free to breathe, Oh when the air is free to breathe,
Oh, Lord, I want to be in that number, when the air is free to breathe!

And when the Earth is green for all, and when the Earth is green for all,
Oh, Lord, I want to be in that number, when the Earth is green for all!

Our Joys and Concerns

Remember these known joys and concerns:

- Peace in our world
- Beth Wheat's sister, Pat. Awaiting surgery
- The Ezell/DuFauchards after the death of Len's mother, Nellie
- The Flandermeyers – Nancy Chronister's parents
- Doug and Anthony
- Laura Weaver Haas's mother
- Nikki Balding's father-in-law in hospice care
- Bryce – Jen Langdon's nephew
- Betty – Carol Berman's cousin living with cancer

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn for Assurance NCH #405 *There Are Some Things I May Not Know* YES GOD IS REAL

~ as you are able, please stand ~

The Gospel Lesson

Mark 9:2-9

The Anthem

A Gospel Song Of Peace

Choir

Words and Music by Sally K. Albrecht

The Homily

Abundance Transfigured

Rev. Sisson and Congregation

I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me (see insert)

~ congregation sings one verse at breaks in speaking ~

Making an Offering

Please consider making an offering through on-line giving, or mail your check to the church address. You can find information on our church web page: first-ststephens.org You may also place your offering in the offering plate in the sanctuary. Or, you may use the QR Code that is at the end of the announcements.

Hymn for Sending

Just a Closer Walk with Thee

Traditional

~ as you are able, please stand ~

Benediction

Postlude

+ + + + +

Welcome! We are glad you are here. If you are visiting with us, please fill out a visitor's card from the back of one of the chairs and either place it in the offering plate or hand it to the pastor after the service. Please stay for coffee and conversation in the Gathering Room after the service.

Many thanks to our jazz instrumentalists today: Zack Metz, Lake Prescott, and Taylor Ramage.

There will be an informal meeting after the service today for anyone to ask further questions of the **Strategic Planning and Visioning Committee's proposal** that they made at the Annual Meeting in January.

The Art Gallery is open today from noon to 2p.m. Thank you, Martha Wharton, for being today's docent. Docent schedule:

Feb. 18 – Emily Perl,
Feb. 25 – Jen Langdon,
Mar. 3 – Carol Berman.

Docents are still needed for March 10 and 17.

For the month of February, please bring sanitary products for “Changing the Cycles” as we help end menstrual poverty.

Mardi GrAsh – We will gather on Tuesday, February 13th at 5:30 to prepare our annual Mardi Gras feast of **pancakes** and side dishes. Then, after the meal we will usher in the Lenten season with our Ash Wednesday meditation. Dinner will be at 6p.m. with **imposition of ashes** following it.

“Come for the pancakes; Stay for the ash!”

To Make an Offering Now



Consistory for 2024

Amanda Ajulu – President - amandamajulu@yahoo.com
Jen Langdon – Vice President - jenjele@gmail.com
Bill Ingram – Treasurer - william.ingram@gmail.com
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Nancy Chronister – Member at Large - nancyfc88@comcast.net
Kelly Sisson – Member at Large - fssuccpastor@gmail.com

Strategic Planning Committee

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|
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WiFi Password:

ONAComma