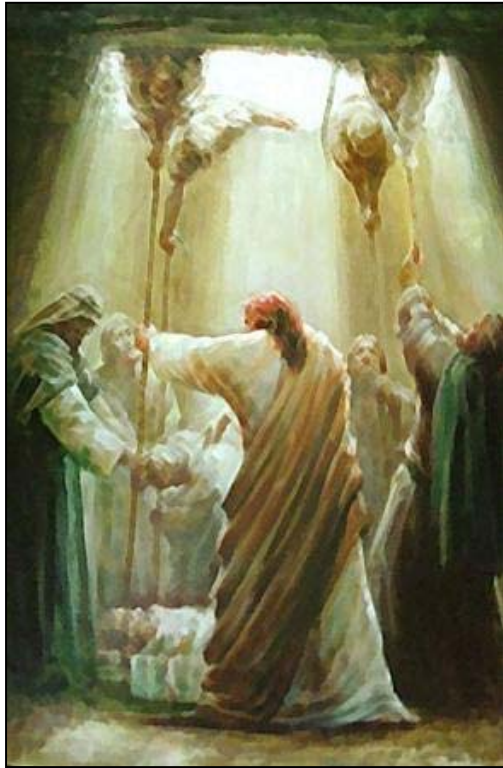


Jan Hus Presbyterian Church & Neighborhood House

An unapologetic place of gospel and social justice.

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

Sunday, April 25, 2010



Meditation

“In situations where its imagery is allowed to work [such as in Revelation] it can disturb the convention maintained by the commonsensical. Like metaphors, whose function is to lay bare the realities of experience by the abrupt and jarring impact of their linguistic juxtapositions, apocalypse seeks to stop us in our tracks and get us to view things differently. For many, however, metaphors are “dead,” themselves having become part of a mere convention or habit without the effect they once had; they are salt that has lost its savor. Revelation requires the recovery of that ability to hear or read and to be stirred or shocked into action rather than indifference or rejection.”

~ The New Interpreters' Bible

Jan Hus Presbyterian Church & Neighborhood House

"Where you are welcome, long before you arrive."

Since 1888, the doors of this church have been open to those who seek a new way to engage with the Spirit and eat at the welcome table. In those early years, Jan Hus served the needs of the Czech immigrants who founded the church and named it after the martyr Jan Hus. Today, our mission has expanded to include people from many different walks in life who want to share this stage of their journey with others in a God centered community. We continue to honor our Czech founders, however, by singing our closing hymn in the Czech language (it is printed in the bulletin in English as well, so don't be afraid to sing out in English if your Czech is a little rusty).

Worship at Jan Hus is a time for the Body of Christ to affirm God's vision for the world and witness the Gospel of Hope. We believe that God is greater than human language or experience, and to more fully experience our God, we embrace language that acknowledges God the Mother and God the Father. We hold fast to the tenets of the Reformation that call for the priesthood of all believers, therefore ours is a community pulpit, one in which we hear the Scriptures interpreted by both clergy and laity and that allows for a greater reflection of the community as a whole – a diverse expression of the presence of God in each believer and at the core of our collective experience. Sermons are conversations that give us an opportunity to hear how God's voice speaks to each of us. Sermons may invite us into new ways of seeing and hearing God or deepen and affirm those beliefs we hold most true.

It is possible that Jan Hus may seem different than what you expect in church. That's fine – our God loves to challenge us with the unexpected! Please know that you are most welcome here as one who carries within you a piece of the God who loves us all. We are happy to have you with us and thank God for bringing us together on this, the day that God has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

*Please stand if you are comfortable doing so. Page 2



Prelude

Call to Worship

One: This is a place that is different.

Many: It is a place that is different because it is here we seek who we are.

One: This is a place that takes us out of the schedule we keep:

Many: A schedule that too often crowds out who we are with what we do.

One: This is a place to pause:

Many: A pause to breathe in the Spirit of God and our being.

All: Let us seek, and be, and breathe God and Spirit as we raise our voices in worship and praise. Amen.

*** Hymn 325 Spirit Divine Attend Our Prayers**

Call to Prayer

Unison Prayer (Adapted from *The Jewish Baby Book* by Anita Diamant)

As we wrap ourselves in the Presence of God in this place, so may we be wrapped in justice and righteousness. As we embrace today, so may we embrace our tradition and God's people.

As our eyes are filled with wonder when we gaze at the world, so too may we be filled with wonder at everyday miracles of life.

As we startle the world around us, so too may we remain ever open both to the happiness and to the pain of those we encounter in this world.

As we cry for food and comfort now, so many one day cry out to correct the injustices of the world, to help clothe the naked and feed the hungry.

As our hand grasps tightly about the hand of the one that loves us, so may we grasp hold of learning and grow in knowledge and wisdom. Amen

Silent Prayer

Sung Response: Hymn #324

Open my eyes, that I may see

Glimpses of truth Thou has for me

Place in my hands the wonderful key

That shall unclasp and set me free.

Silently now I wait for Thee,

Ready my God, Thy will to see;

Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine.

Assurance of God's Love & Forgiveness

One: We, too, are the forgivers...

Many: Jesus call us to forgive, as much as we seek forgiveness.

One: It is true...serenity and peace...are never fulfilled when forgiveness is incomplete.

Many: So let us seek forgiveness in full and peace in abundance, and let it begin now...

Please offer on another a sign of peace...

Prayer for Illumination

One: Be with us, O God, as we listen to the words of those people whose stories tell the presence of your love and wisdom for all the ages.

Many: Guide us, O God, in our reflection so that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, in your will discover peace, and in your love find our salvation.

First Reading: Acts 9:36-43

Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

Second Reading: Revelation 7:9-17

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

The Gospel According to John 10:22-30

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one."

Sermon: *There's Something Going on Here...* Ray Bagnuolo, Minister

*** Hymn 284 O God What You Ordain is Right**

Preparing for the Offering

One: In this world, someone has too much.

Many: Someone has barely enough, someone has nothing at all.

One: When we share our commitment and financial support, we act on the imagination of Jesus.

Many: Jesus, who sees enough bread to go around, enough courage to speak the truth, and enough love to overcome all things.

One: O God, to those of us who have hunger, give bread. And to those of us who have bread, give the hunger for justice.

Many: When the 5,000 were hungry, the disciples came to Jesus and said: "Send the people away, so they may get something to eat."

All: Jesus answered: "You give them something to eat."

Offertory Music

Blessing the Offering

One: And the people reached in their pockets and pulled out the bread and the fishes and shared them, and there was abundance for all, and even more.

Many: Amen.

Announcements

Prayers of the People

The Prayer that Jesus Taught Us (Unison)

Creator God, who art in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

***Hymn 229 From All That Dwell Below the Skies**

Benediction

Sung Blessing (in English or Czech)

Christians rise and act your creed,
Let your prayer be in your deed;
Seek the right, perform the true,
Raise your work and life anew.
Come then law divine and reign,
Freest faith assailed in vain.
Perfect love, bereft of fear,
born in heaven and radiant here. Amen.

Amen to pozehnani prijdiz na nas vsecky,
Abychom po skonani vesli v raj nebesky,
A tam s angelskou risi, boha take ctilli,
Dejz nam to; o Jezisi, spasitely mily.
Amen.

One: Go in peace to love and serve God!

Many: **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

Please remember our families, friends, and concerns in your prayers, including:

- For those struggling with addiction...
- For those struggling with God...
- For those struggling with one another...
- For those marginalized...for any reason.
- For those seeking healing, work, wholeness..
- All for all the prayers you bring with you today...



Please join us after worship for a light lunch after worship today!.

Today's Announcements:

Please thank Stan and Essie who prepared the sanctuary and light lunch that follows worship, Del for the care and beauty of the flowers that fill our chancel, and Analia and Brian for their help this morning.

Sunday, April 25 Composer's Voice Concert TODAY! – Free! 1:00 – 2:00 P.M.

Wednesday, 4/28 Chamber Music Concert to Benefit Jan Hus Presbyterian Church Ministry to the Poor and Homeless. 7:30 P.M. at Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church at Madison and 73rd. See insert.

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THE SESSION: Kerry Flynn, Gary Ireland, Deborah Widerkehr

THE DEACONS: Gina Lee, Essie Rance

THE STAFF"

Ministers	All the People
Ray Bagnuolo	Stated Supply Pastor
Herman Brown	Custodian
Brian Carreira	HOAP Outreach
Amy Conley	Volunteer Coordinator
Drew Paton	HOAP Outreach
David Kelley	Social Worker
Stanley M. Kusz	Hospitality (Sunday Lunch Preparation)
Christian McLeer	Music Director
Karl Kamisnki, Jeremiah Frederick	Musicians
Holly Nedelka, Director	Child's Play; www.childsplaynyc.com
José Reyes	Building Superintendent
Carol Schachter	Church Administrator
Gerard D. Shaw	Hospitality

THE RESIDENT STAFF Allison Bombard, Alicia Martin-Schutz, Gerard D. Shaw

HUSSITE PETS : QT & Madge, Rocket, Allie, & Marvin's Reptile Friends

If you have clothing you are able to donate, we welcome your generosity. We are especially in need of men's clothing for our outreach program. Clothing is always given away without any charge. Always. Tax forms available.

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