

## Jan Hus Presbyterian Church & Neighborhood House

An unapologetic place of gospel and social justice.

### The Sixth Sunday of Easter

Sunday, May 9, 2010



#### *Meditation*

“The interpretation of Scripture, we confess, does not belong to any private or public person, nor yet to any Kirk [Church] for pre-eminence or precedence, personal or local, which it has above others, but pertains to the Spirit of God by whom the Scriptures were written. When controversy arises about the right understanding of any passage or sentence of Scripture, or for the reformation of any abuse within the Kirk of God, we ought not so much to ask what men have said or done before us, as what the Holy Spirit uniformly speaks within the body of the Scriptures and what Christ Jesus himself did and commanded. ...We dare not receive or admit any interpretation which is contrary to any principle point of our faith, or to any other plain text of the Scripture, or to the rule of love.”

~ *Book of Confessions 3.18*

## 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: Blessings to all who enter this place.

**Many: Blessings to all those who are elsewhere.**

One: Grace be with you in all of the ways grace is.

**Many: Grace be with all who breathe the air of this earth.**

One: Love. May the Love that is God lift you in Spirit and life.

**Many: May the Love of God lift all our sisters and brothers in all the places they may be.**

**All: And, with all those here and elsewhere let us worship God, in all the ways we know God, together. Amen.**

\* Hymn 446 *Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken*

### Call to Prayer

**Unison Prayer** (Adapted from *On Reading Torah*, Temple Beth EI)

Somewhere out of time; in the mystery of time

Somewhere between memory and forgetfulness,

Dimly though, ...we remember how we once stood

As your mountain trembled amid the fire and the thunder.

How we stood there, out of bondage

In a strange land and afraid.

And you loved us and you fed us

And we feasted on your words. And, yes, we can remember

How the thunder was our hearts and the fire was our souls.

O God, we do remember. The fire burns in us anew.

And here we are, once more. A witness to that timeless moment.

Present now in the light of your presence.

We are reborn.

## 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: Revelation 21:10, 21:22-22:5**

And in the spirit he carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.

I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the royalty of the earth will bring their glory into it. Its gates will never be shut by day-and there will be no night there. People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

**The Gospel According to John 5:1-9**

After this there was a festival of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

Now in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate there is a pool, called in Hebrew Beth-zatha, which has five porticoes. In these lay many people who were invalids-blind, lame, and paralyzed. One man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had been there a long time, he said to him, "Do you want to be made well?" The sick man answered him, "Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; and while I am making my way, someone else steps down ahead of me." Jesus said to him, "Stand up, take your mat and walk." At once the man was made well, and he took up his mat and began to walk.

Now that day was a sabbath.

**Sermon:** *No place for temples...* Ray Bagnuolo, Minister

**\* Hymn 281 Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah**

**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 426 Lord Speak to Me That I May Speak

#### *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.

Wed., May 12      Session Meeting: 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM  
Sunday, June/6      More Light Sunday Worship

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THE SESSION: Elaine Connolly, Kerry Flynn, Gary Ireland,  
Annie Rawlings, Dell Shorter, Deborah Widerkehr

THE DEACONS: Gina Lee, Essie Rance

#### THE STAFF"

Ministers	All the People
Analia Alvarez	Intern
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; <a href="http://www.childsplaynyc.com">www.childsplaynyc.com</a>
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