

Jan Hus Presbyterian Church & Neighborhood House

An unapologetic place of gospel and social justice.

The Seventh Sunday of Easter is Ascension Sunday

Sunday, May 16, 2010



Meditation

“The upshot of all of this is that theological ethics should not in any way try to say directly what God’s command is....An ethics that thinks it can know and set forth the command of God, the Creator, plants itself upon the throne of God: it stops and poisons the wells and is more fraught with peril to the Christian life than all cinemas and dancing saloons piled together.”

The Holy Spirit and the Christian Life, Karl Barth

Prelude

Call to Worship

One: Could it be that revelation still occurs – in me?.

Many: **Could my heart be stirred in the same way as the ancients?**

One: Is it possible that *enlightenment* is real and lasting?

Many: **Is there a chance that such a thing could be real – for me?**

One: We so want to believe in the Spirit and more.

Many: **That certainly says something to us.**

One: Among other things, it says this is a good time to be present, with one another, and in prayer.

Many: **Yes. Let it be so, and let us pray and worship God together.**

* Hymn 321 *Holy Spirit, Truth Divine*

Unison Prayer

Dear God,

The mystery of your presence is everywhere.

Everywhere we go, you are there.

Each day all of creation coaxes us

in the direction of memory,

release,

self-realization,

and wholeness,

so that we may each take our full place

within the rushing energies of your cosmos.

Remind us to be the witnesses,

to allow,

to bask in the delights

of not calling the shots,

of not knowing, not doing,

but receiving the constant flow of your grace--

like the birds that offer their songs,
without prompts;
like the birthing woman,
riding the waves of her own body,
without command.

Let us too know the joys of giving
simply because we are able to.
Make us your empty vessels.

Let the dams that resist your flow be broken,
not by force,
but by the hastening shift of one stone toward your will.
Let us not fear our own power,
nor distrust our innate desires and abilities to restore harmony,
for they are your bequests.

We ask this in the name of the one who taught us to pray...

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 radical and welcoming 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: Ephesians 1:15-23

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints,
and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my
prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the God of glory, may give
you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know God, so that, with the
eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which God has
called you, what are the riches of God's glorious inheritance among the saints,
and what is the immeasurable greatness of God's power for us who believe,
according to the working of God's great power. God put this power to work in
Christ when God raised him from the dead and seated him at the right hand in
the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion,
and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to
come. And God has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over
all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

The Gospel According to Luke 24:44-53

Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still
with you-that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and
the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the
scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer
and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness
of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.
You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what God
has promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power
from on high."

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed
them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up
into heaven. And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy;
and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

Sermon: *Spirit, Revelation, and an Enlightened Heart: Priceless*

*** Hymn 314 Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song**

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."

One: 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 464 Joyful, Joyful we Adore Thee**

Benediction

Sung Blessing (in English or Czech)
 Christians rise and act your creed, Amen to pozehnani prijdiz na nas vsecky,
 Let your prayer be in your deed; Abychom po skonani vesli v raj nebesky,
 Seek the right, perform the true, A tam s angelskou risi, boha take ctilli,
 Raise your work and life anew. Dejz nam to; o Jezisi, spasitely mily.
 Come then law divine and reign, Amen.
 Freest faith assailed in vain.
 Perfect love, bereft of fear,
 born in heaven and radiant here. 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 19	Session Meeting: 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
Sunday., May 30	Composer's Voice at 1:00 P.M. Free. All Are Welcome.
Sunday, June/6	More Light Sunday Worship

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 7

JAN HUS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

THE DEACONS: 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
Stan Kusz	Hospitality (Sunday Lunch Preparation)
Christian McLeer	Music Director
Karl Kamisnki, Jay 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, Bizou, Allie, & Marvin's Reptile Friends

8,1,2,7,6,3,4,5

*Please stand if you are comfortable doing so. Page 8