

Jan Hus Presbyterian Church & Neighborhood House

A place of gospel and social justice.

The 29th Sunday in *Ordinary Times*

October 17, 2010



Being thus prepared for us in all ways, and made beautiful, and good for food, and for building, and for instruments of our hands, this race of plants, deserving boundless affection and admiration from us, becomes, in proportion to their obtaining it, a nearly perfect test of our being in right temper of mind and way of life; so that no one can be far wrong in either who loves trees enough, and everyone is assuredly wrong in both who does not love them...

- John Ruskin, 1819-1900, *Modern Painters VI*

Jan Hus Presbyterian Church & Neighborhood House

"Where you were welcome, long before you arrived."

Since 1888, the doors of this church have been open to those who seek a new way to engage with the Spirit and share at the table Jesus has set for us all. In those early years, Jan Hus served the needs of the Czech immigrants who founded the church and named it after the Czech reformer and martyr Jan Hus.

Today, our mission has expanded to include people from many different walks in life; people who want to share this stage of their journey with others in a God centered community. We continue to honor our Czech founders, as well, by singing our closing hymn in the Czech language each Sunday.

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 the wonder of 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 shared pulpit. This is a place in which we hear the Scriptures interpreted by clergy and laity, alike, reflecting our congregation and community as a diverse expression of the presence of God in each believer. We strive for sermons that are conversations which give us an opportunity to hear how God's voice speaks to each of us. Often, we are invited into new ways of seeing and hearing God, deepening and affirming those beliefs we hold most true.

It is possible that Jan Hus may seem different than what you expect in church, for surely God loves to challenge us all with the unexpected!

However you may find us, please know that you are most welcome here as one who carries within you the Spirit of God who loves us all. *Namasthe!*

We are pleased to have you join us on this day of celebration and thank God for bringing us together in this community. What a day, indeed...this day that God has made!



Meditation as we prepare for worship

A human being is a part of the whole called by us Universe, a part limited in time and space. One experiences one's self, our thoughts and feelings as something separated from the rest, a kind of optical illusion of our consciousness. This delusion is a kind of prison for us, restricting us to our personal desires and to affection for a few persons nearest to us. Our task must be to free ourselves from this prison by widening our circle of compassion to embrace all living creatures and the whole of nature in its beauty. This is what I call Hospitality, offering our home, this earth, this universe to all who share it with us.

www.uupuertorico.org



Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me."

All: **We come, each of us a child of God.**

One: Jesus said, "Do not stop them."

All: **We come to remove obstacles before children.**

One: Jesus said, "It is to such as these that the reign of God belongs."

All: **We come to recognize that each child is already part of God's realm.**

One: Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the reign of God as a little child will never enter it."

All: **We come to worship with the trust and dependence of a child.**

* Hymn **Gather Us In (p. 4-5)**

284

Gather Us In

Unison D A C G Gm/B \flat Dm

1. Here in this place, the new light is stream-ing, sha-dows of doubt are
2. We are the young—our lives are a mys-tery; we are the old, who
3. Here we re-ceive new life in the wa-ters; here we re-ceive the
4. Not just in build-ings, small and con-fin-ing, not in some heav-en,

C G D A C G

van-ished a-way. See in this space our fears and our dream-ings,
yearn for your face. We have been sung through-out all of his-tory,
bread of new birth; here you shall call your sons and yourdaugh-ters,
light years a-way, here in this place the new light is shin-ing;

Gm/B \flat Dm C Am7 D

brought here to you in the light of this day.
called to be light to the whole hu-man race.
call us a-new to be salt for the earth.
now is God pres-ent, and now is the day.

A C/G D/F# G A C/G

Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en; gath-er us in; our
 Gath-er us in— the rich and the haugh-ty; gath-er us in— the
 Give us to drink the wine of com- pass- ion, give us to eat the
 Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er; gath-er us in and

D/F# G A D A C G

spir - its in- flame. Call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en;
 proud and the strong; give us a heart so meek and so low - ly;
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash- ion
 make us your own; gath- er us in, all peo- ples to- geth - er,

Gm/Bb Dm C Am7 D C/D Gm/D D

we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
 give us the cour- age to en - ter the song.
 lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
 fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

Call to Confession in Unison (adapted from Book of Common Worship)

Eternal God,
 in whom we live and move and have our being,
 whose face is hidden from us by our sometimes distance from you,
 and whose mercy we easily forget in the blindness of our hearts:
 Cleanse from us all our offenses,
 and deliver us from our proud thoughts and selfish desires,
 so that with reverent and humble hearts
 we may draw near to you,
 confessing our faults,
 confiding in your grace, hospitality, and justice,
 finding refuge and strength,
 all through your son, the one named Jesus,
 and in all the ways we know you.
 Amen.

Silent Prayer for Reconciliation

Assurance of God's Love & Forgiveness

The Passing of the Peace

Let the peace of God in all the ways God is known - erupt in your hearts,
 so that all may know you are loved by God. And let us share this wonder
 with each other, one and all!

One: God's great peace be with you!

All: **And also with you.**

Prayer for Illumination

God, our helper, by your Holy Spirit, open our minds, that as these
 readings are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may be led into your
 truth and taught your will, for the sake of all those you send to us seeking
 your love and presence in their lives. We pray these things and more in
 the name of our Lord Jesus Christ and in all the ways we know you.
 Amen.

First Reading: *Excerpt from Radical Hospitality, Homan and Pratt.*

Hospitality Is born in us when we are well loved by God and others. Hospitality is the overflowing of a heart that has to share what it has received. It takes a whole person to open up, it takes a secure person to be available, it takes a strong person to give yourself away.

It is possible to serve meals in a nursing home, to cook in a homeless shelter, or read stories to children at an inner-city library and never let others into your heart. It is possible to do the good thing and end up feeling satisfied with yourself and even just a bit superior. It is possible to do the good thing and not be changed for the better by it. Hospitality includes cooking the meal, and reading to the kid, but it demands that you let the people you are serving into your heart. Only in opening yourself wide to another are you transformed by the power of love.

If you are already thinking of ways to be more hospitable, just slow down. Do not worry just yet about opening up your door; focus on your heart. Do not worry about the time involved or how you can make it happen. Instead, look inside and see if you can find an empty space where you can let someone in.

Merely being nice to people does not fulfill the deep requirements of Benedictine hospitality. We must let the person stir us; we must connect. Benedictine hospitality will extract a cost from us, and it will tumble us into the magical realm of personal transformation.

Opening yourself to a stranger is not equivalent to leaving your door unlocked and bringing strangers into your home. Hospitality does not mean you ignore obvious threats to personal safety. Hospitality means bringing strangers into your heart, which may or may not result in bringing strangers to the table. Do not harden your heart against suffering. Widen your boundaries to include those who are not like you. When monks open up their monastery, they are making a place for someone who is not one of them. You and me, we are strangers at the door of the monastery...

Gospel Reading: Luke 18:1-8

Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my opponent.' For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.'" And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God grant justice to God's chosen ones who cry to God day and night? Will God delay long in helping them? I tell you, God will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

Provocation: Hospitality, Justice, and Mercy Ray Bagnuolo

* **Hymn #376 Love's Divine, All Loves Excelling**

1 Love di-vine, all loves ex-cel-ling, joy of heaven, on earth be found,
 2 Breathe, O breathe your lov-ing Spir-it in-to ev-ery trou-bled breast;
 3 Come, al-might-y to de-liv-er, let us all your life re-ceive;
 4 Fin-ish, then, your new cre-a-tion; pure and spot-less may we prove;

Fix in us a hum-ble dwell-ing, all your faith-ful mer-cies crown;
 Let us all in you in-her-it, let us find your prom-ised rest;
 Sud-den-ly re-turn, and ne-ver, ne-ver-more your tem-ples leave.
 Let us see your great sal-va-tion per-fect-ly re-stored in you;

Je-sus, you are all com-pas-sion; pure, un-bound-ed love im-part.
 Take a-way our love of sin-ning; Al-pha and O-me-ga be;
 You we would be al-ways bless-ing, love you as your an-gels love,
 Changed from glo-ry in-to glo-ry, till in heaven we take our place,

Vis-it us with your sal-va-tion, en-ter ev-ery trem-bling heart.
 End of faith, as its be-gin-ning, set our hearts at lib-er-ty.
 Pray and praise for your un-fail-ing, wound-ed arms out-stretched a-bove.
 Crowned as saints, we ev-er shall be lost in won-der, love, and praise.

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 (In Unison)

Our Mother/Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kindom 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 kindom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

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.

Charge to the People

As God's own,
clothe yourselves with compassion,
kindness and patience,
forgiving each other
as God has forgiven all of us,
and crown all these things with love,
which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

Closing Hymn # 540 God Be With You Till we Meet Again

Blessing

May the God of hope
fill you with all joy and peace in believing,
so that you may abound in hope
by the power of the Holy Spirit

Alleluia! Amen!

Postlude

540 God Be with You Till We Meet Again

Jeremiah Eames Rankin, 1880; alt. RANDOLPH 9.8.8.9 Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906
Unison *Harmony*

1. God be with you till we meet a - gain; Lov - ing coun - sels
2. God be with you till we meet a - gain; Un - seen wings pro -
3. God be with you till we meet a - gain; When life's per - ils
4. God be with you till we meet a - gain; Keep love's ban - ner

guide, up - hold you, With a Shep-herd's care en - fold you:
tect - ing hide you, Dai - ly man - na still pro - vide you:
thick con - found you, Put un - fail - ing arms a - round you:
float - ing o'er you, Smite death's threat-ening wave be - fore you:

God be with you till we meet a - gain.

*Please join us for fellowship meal following the Postlude.
Our deck is open for gathering and enjoying.*

Prayers...

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

- For those among us who are not feeling well, including the pets who care for us and we for them.
- Members and friends of Jan Hus, recovering from pain and the uncertainty that pain creates in our lives.
- For healing...
- Those feeling excluded and marginalized...that they may find this place or others like it.
- All who are reeling from the effects of natural and human disasters
- Folk who are struggling with addiction and denial
- Friends, praying for relief from depression and despair
- Loved ones coming near the end of this time...
- Everyone who may be caring for elderly members of their families...
- Anyone not ready for help, yet...
- And all the other prayers you hold close in your heart...



Announcements:

Please thank Essie, Stan, Lily, and Brian for preparing the sanctuary and this morning's light refreshments. Also, please thank Del for the care of the flowers that fill our chancel and around the rest of our building.

Sunday, October 24:	Homecoming
Sunday, October 31:	Drew Paton, Preaching Composer's Voice Workshop
Sunday, November 6	Communion Sunday
Sunday, November 13	Queer Elder Spirit Presentation, Metropolitan Community Church

Special thanks to

Anne Dinsmore Phillips

Our guest music director today

filling in for

Christian McLeer

Who is performing this weekend

In Chicago!

JAN HUS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

"Where you were welcomed, long before you arrived."

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THE SESSION: Kerry Flynn, Gary Ireland, Annie Rawlings,
Del Shorter, Deborah Widerkehr

THE DEACONS: Essie Rance

THE STAFF

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

THE RESIDENT STAFF: Lily Grecco, Albert Linares, Marvin Ramirez, Essie Rance,
Annie Rawlings, Sara Renstron, Juan Reyes, Frank Rocco, Gerard D. Shaw

HUSSITE PETS: Philpot, QT & Madge, Rocket & Bizou + 3, Allie, & Marvin's
Reptile Friends



The Jan Hus Homeless Theatre Troupe
presents

It Could Happen to You

The world premiere of an original Forum Theatre play
Conceived, Scripted and Performed by the Jan Hus Homeless Theatre Troupe
...with special appearances by the audience...

Facilitated by "Joker" Katy Rubin
In collaboration with the
Jan Hus Homeless Outreach and Advocacy Program

7PM Wednesday, October 20th, 2010
The Theatre at Jan Hus Church
SUGGESTED DONATION \$3

Guests who benefit from the Jan Hus Homeless Outreach and Advocacy
Program have been training in the Theatre of the Oppressed methodology since
June 2010. The premier performance of *It Could Happen to You* marks the
beginning of our NYC tour.

Join us in brainstorming alternatives to the problems faced by NYC's homeless.
And, of course, come help us celebrate our opening night!