



5th Sunday after Epiphany

February 9, 2020 @ 10:00 am

Church of The Cross

475 West Higgins Road Hoffman Estates, IL 60169

(847) 885-1199

WELCOME ALL

PRELUDE

"Pass Me Not"

By William H. Doane

WORDS OF WELCOME

CHORAL INTROIT "He is King of Kings" African American Spiritual. Arr. Jones

*CALL TO WORSHIP¹

Rev. Julie Peterson

We are called follow—to walk in the way of justice and righteousness,
for we are children of God!

We are called to serve—to be Christ with and for one another,
for we are the salt of the earth!

We are called to shine—to be beacons of hope and witnesses to truth,
for we are the light of the world!

Come, you who are claimed as children of God,
salt of the earth and light of the world.

Let us worship the Lord!

*HYMN NO. 853

"We are Marching in the Light of God"

Zulu/Xhosa freedom song from South Africa

CALL TO CONFESSION

Jim Letterer

PRAYER OF CONFESSION¹

Lover of justice, Giver of mercy, you call us to share our bread with the hungry and to open our homes to the homeless, to care for the poor and to satisfy the needs of those who suffer. Some of your commandments are easy to follow; others require so much of us! How can we break the chains of injustice and untie the cords of oppression? When we consider the brokenness of our world, it is each to feel overwhelmed.

Forgive us when we use our sense of helplessness as an excuse. Remind us, we pray, you are at work in and through us to bring about your reign. Free us from fear and stir our hearts toward a greater generosity, so we will be the salt and light you have called us to be.

OUR SILENT CONFESSION

*HYMN No. 582 “Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me”

*PASSING THE PEACE ~ *Greet one another with the peace of Christ.*

SHARE GOD’S LOVE

*HYMN No. 188, vs1 “Jesus Loves Me” *Children are invited to come forward*

A TIME FOR CHILDREN

*HYMN No. 188, vs2 “Jesus Loves Me” *Children return to their seat*

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Jim Letterer

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

1 Corinthians 2:1-16

This is the word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 5:13-20

This is the word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“You are ...”

Rev. Julie Peterson

OFFER HOPE ...IN JESUS’ NAME

*HYMN NO. 313 “Lord, Make Us More Holy” *African American Spiritual*

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *portions of The Belhar Confession (see note below)*

We believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects and nourishes the Church from the beginning of the world to the end.

The Church is holy; the Church is universal; it is the fellowship of God’s children, called together from the whole of humanity to proclaim God’s wonderful deeds.

We believe that the reconciling work of Christ gives birth to a uniting Church, because Church unity is a gift from God and a goal we need to strive for.

The unity of the Church must become visible so that the people around us can see how separation and hatred are overcome in Christ.

We believe that genuine faith in Jesus Christ is the only condition for members in this Christian church.

We praise God that race, class, gender, or culture does not determine who belongs to this Church.

We believe that God has entrusted to the Church the message of reconciliation; and that the Church is called to proclaim and embody this reconciliation; to be peacemakers; and to believe and to witness that God conquers all powers of sin and death, of hate, bitterness and enmity, through God's life-giving Word and Spirit.

We praise God that the gospel does not separate people on the basis of race, gender, class, or culture, but is the power of reconciliation in Christ.

We believe that God wants to bring about true justice and lasting peace on earth; we believe that God is, in a special sense, the God of the suffering, the poor and the downtrodden.

We praise God who gives justice to the oppressed and bread to the hungry; who sets captives free and makes the blind to see; who protects strangers, orphans, and widows and obstructs the plans of the wicked.

We believe that the Church belongs to God and that it should stand where God stands: against injustice and with those who are wronged.

We commit ourselves to reject all forms of injustice in ourselves and amongst us; and to struggle against all forms of injustice and every teaching that allows injustices to flourish.

We are called to confess and to do all this in obedience to Jesus Christ, our only Lord, even if authorities or laws oppose this, even if punishment and suffering may be the consequence.

Jesus is Lord! We will follow Him! To the one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be honor and glory for ever and ever.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

PRESENTING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS TO GOD

CHORAL OFFERTORY "Give Me Jesus" Arr. Molly Ijames
Solo performance by Julie Peterson

*DOXOLOGY

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION Jim Letterer

*CLOSING HYMN NO. 741 "Guide My Feet"

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION "Amen" African American, Arr. Johnson

*POSTLUDE "Salvation" By Geoffrey Andrews

¹Call to Worship 53.1, © 2019 Office of Theology and Worship Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) pg48

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The Confession of Belhar background

In Cape Town in the second semester of 1978, two years after a tragic events on the streets of Soweto, students in the Dutch Reformed Mission Church (DRMC) theological seminary were struggling to make theological sense of the resistance to the apartheid regime. The professor challenged them: "You have been quite explicit about the legal, sociological, and political science reasons for your judgment on apartheid. I want to challenge you to find the theological essence of the judgment on apartheid."

In the spring of 1978, the class came to a conclusion. Apartheid is grounded in the irreconcilability of people of different racial groups. It is thus against the gospel of Jesus Christ, which is grounded in the doctrine of reconciliation. In October of that year, the Synod of the DRMC, with others in the leadership, considered this theological conclusion. The Theological Commission of the Synod affirmed this judgment and took it to the Synod. The conclusion was that "Apartheid was anti-evangelical." Racism was a structural and institutional sin.

Apartheid is the human context for the Confession of Belhar, yet it is never mentioned in the confession. Rather, **Belhar lifts up the heart of the Gospel as a bringer of hope for the human condition.** Belhar presents a Christian view of racism, separation, and suffering by those who had experienced the realities of these evils. It demonstrates confessional affirmations can arise from social ethics. **Belhar has three central points: Unity, Reconciliation, and Justice.** There is a biblical affirmation followed by a rejection of false teaching. You will find the full text at:

https://www.pcusa.org/site_media/media/uploads/theologyandworship/pdfs/belhar.pdf

Welcome All
Share God's Love
Offer Hope
... all in Jesus' name



Hearing Assistance Devices, large print copies of the bulletin and hymns are available from an usher.

ARE YOU A VISITOR OR DO YOU HAVE A PRAYER REQUEST?

If you are a visitor today please fill out one of our visitor cards. If you have a prayer request, please fill out the prayer request card.

Please drop your card in the offering plate.

WE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR...

Avonne (Laura D's mother)
Ed (Terri H)
Linda A (sister of Judy M)
Mary Lou A (friend of Larry & Dawn A)
Connie & Ed (Friends of Karen)
Mildred B
Mary Ann B
Virgil B (friend of Karen F)
Andree C
Becky C (former member)
Patrick C (Stu & Marie's son-in-law)
Renee C (Laura D's sister-in-law)
Jim C (Mary Ann's son-in-law)
Linda D (Jim & Sue's relative)
Betty F (Chris L's mother)
Shawn F (Karen F's son)
Jack and Donna F (uncle/aunt of Sue L)
Karen F
Adelaide G
Bruce & Linda G (friends of the Rutter's)
Nick G (Rutter's grandson)
Ricky G (Liataud's nephew)
Rita H (Jim & Ann's relative)
Jessica (Charlie / Nancy's niece)

Mary Ann J (Judie T's friend)
Bob L (Judie T's friend)
Jim L (Groenewold's son-in-law)
Linda L (Judie T's friend)
Al M (Pastor Julie's cousin)
Glenna M
Judy M
Klee (Michaelis' son)
Kofi M (Grant-Acquah family friend)
Lisa M (Karen's daughter)
Steve M
Dick McW (Ann Moorman's brother)
Noah (nephew of Adelaide's son-in-law)
Jann P (Jeff P's father)
Barbara O (friend of Glenna M)
Susan Q (Ann S's boss)
Ann S
Larry V (Jim V's father)
April V (Chris V's cousin)
Caregivers
Communities impacted by natural disasters
Those devastated by terrorism
Families of suicide loss
Those who grieve

- **Family of Paul** (Judie T's Uncle)



TODAY'S TABLE FLOWERS :

From Naana in celebration of Adelaide's birthday

BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION

Sunday, February 9th we are celebrating Black History Month

Black History Month is an annual celebration of achievements by African Americans and a time for recognizing their central role in U.S. history.



FOOD DRIVE

The Schaumburg Food Pantry provides assistance to those in need within Schaumburg Township. **The most needed pantry items are:**

Peanut butter & Jelly
Boxed Pasta & Sauce
Pasta Roni

Canned Meats
Peaches & Pears
Oatmeal



BOOK CLUB

Wednesday, February 12 @ 7:30 pm - Fountains of Silence
by Ruta Sepetys

Wednesday, March 11 @ 7:30 pm - A Piece of the World
by Christina Baker Kline



FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

Saturday, February 22 @ 9a m – 11 am
we head to Feed My Starving Children as one of
our mission activities.



AGAPE SUPPER POTLUCK

Wednesday, February 26 at 6:00pm

We are looking for the following: Soup, chili, fruit, veggies, cornbread, or a dessert. (Please have your dish here by 5:45pm). Sign up online or in the lounge.



CALENDAR

For the week of February 9th

Sunday, February 9

9:00 am Sunday School for All
10:00 am Worship & Communion
Black History Month Celebration
60th Anniversary planning meeting after service
11:00 am Coffee Hour & Fellowship

Wednesday, February 12

7:30 pm Book Club

Thursday, February 13

9:00 am Café Hours with Pastor Julie
7:00 pm Choir practice

Sunday, February 16

9:00 am Sunday School for Adults only
10:00 am Worship
Townhall Meeting
11:00 am Coffee Hour & Fellowship

February

18 Tuesday	19 Wednesday	20 Thursday	21 Friday	22 Saturday	23 Sunday
7:00 pm - Session Meeting	12 noon Lunch with pastor 7:30 pm - Book Club	9:00 am - Café hours with Pastor Julie 7:00 pm - Choir			9:00 am - Sunday School for All 10:00 am -Worship 11:00 am - Coffee Hour & Fellowship

Pastor Julie on vacation February 11-12 – Call any Deacon or Elder if you have a pastoral care emergency

WORSHIP RESOURCE SCHEDULE

Date	February 9	February 16	February 23	February 26
	Black History Month	Townhall Meeting	Transfiguration of the Lord	Ash Wednesday
Worship Leader	Jim Letterer	George Rogers		George Rogers
Disciple on Duty				
Usher/Greeter	Mauldings	Stu Rutter	Karen Franz	
Counter	Bob Groenewold	Jane Lesch		
Communion Set Up				
Communion Servers				
Coffee Hour	Ann Moorman	Free Will offering		Agape Supper