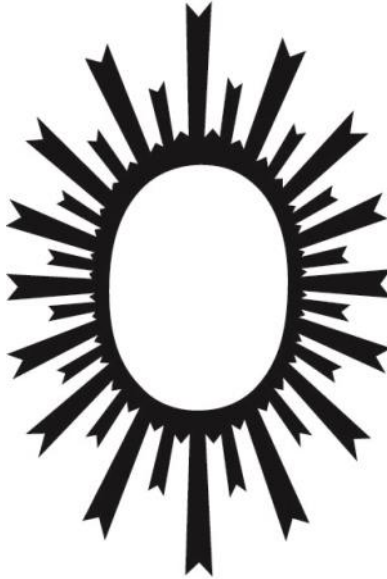


# The Service for the Lord's Day



**May 22, 2022**

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Sixth Sunday of Easter • Black Composer Sunday

529 Hendrie Boulevard  
Royal Oak, MI 48067  
Phone (248) 541-0108  
[www.fpcro.org](http://www.fpcro.org)

*Please silence all devices*

## **WE GATHER TO WORSHIP**

*For young children, the Prayground in the back of the sanctuary is open and our nursery is also available for those who prefer childcare for infants and toddlers. Sunday school classes are available for kids in Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade during the 10:30am service, after the Time with Children.*

### **I. GATHERING AROUND THE WORD**

#### **PRELUDE**

“Elegy for the Time of Change”

*Robert A. Harris*

© 2021 Oxford University Press

#### **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **\*CALL TO WORSHIP<sup>1</sup>**

One: Our God who art in heaven, Hallow'd be thy matchless name.

**All: Let your Kingdom reign in heaven, Dwell on earth in us, the same.**

One: Give us, Lord, this day for worship, Give us manna from on high.

**All: Give us bread to serve your Kingdom, Lord, your name we glorify.**

One: Lord, forgive us, free us, love us. Grant us wisdom to forgive.

**All: Lead us not into temptation. Grant us grace so we can live.**

One: Evil cannot stand against us, Your deliverance we need.

**All: Bind us, Lord, to one another. We, your church, your love receive.**

#### **\*HYMN #631**

“There is a Balm in Gilead”

*Text & Music: African-American Spiritual; Public Domain*

#### **\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

One: Let us share the peace we know in Christ. May the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

*Share a sign of peace and reconciliation with your neighbors, such as a hand over your heart.*

#### **TIME WITH THE CHILDREN**

### **II. PROCLAIMING THE WORD IN SONG**

#### **INTRODUCTION<sup>2</sup>**

*Rev. Emma Nickel*

**SPIRITUAL**

"I Want to be Ready"

arr. Maurice Gardner

~Chancel Choir

"I want to be ready! Lord, ready me. I want to be ready, walk in Jerusalem just like John. John, oh John what do you see? Walk in Jerusalem just like John. John, oh John what do you say? Walk in Jerusalem just like John. Band of angels after me, walk in Jerusalem just like John. Goin' to Heaven on that day, walk in Jerusalem just like John. I want to be ready, walk in Jerusalem just like John. Goin' to keep on climbin' high, walk in Jerusalem just like John. Meet the angels in the sky, walk in Jerusalem just like John. Hear that trumpet in the band, walk in Jerusalem just like John. I can see that heavenly land, walk in Jerusalem just like John. I want to be ready, walk in Jerusalem just like John!"

©1973 Staff Music Publishing Co. Inc.

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Exodus 1:8-14; 2:23-25

Pew Bible, OT pg. 54

**SPIRITUAL**"Recitative: Sometimes I Feel  
Like a Motherless Child"

(from Cantata) arr. John Carter

~Dawson Trotman

"Sometimes I feel like a motherless child, a long way from home. Sometimes I feel like I'm almost gone, a long way from home. True believer, a long way from home."

© 1964 Southern Music Publishing Co.

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Joshua 6:1-5; 12-16; 20

Pew Bible, OT pg. 218

**SPIRITUAL**

"Joshua Fit the Battle of Jericho"

arr. Mark Hayes

~Olivia Donnel

"Joshua fit the battle of Jericho, and the walls came tumblin' down. You may talk about your man of Gideon, you may talk about your man of Saul. There's none like good ol' Joshua at the battle of Jericho. Joshua fit the battle of Jericho, and the walls came tumblin' down. Up to the walls of Jericho he marched with a spear in hand. "Go blow them rams' horns," Joshua cried, "Cause the battle is in my hand." Then the lamb ram sheep horns begin to blow, the trumpets begin to sound. Joshua commanded the children to shout, and the walls come tumblin' down. Oh, Joshua fit the battle of Jericho, and the walls come tumblin' down!"

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**SCRIPTURE READING**

Hebrews 12:1-2; 22-24a

Pew Bible, NT pg. 243

## **SPIRITUAL**

“Walk Together Children”

arr. Moses Hogan

~Audrey Frieberg

*“Oh, walk together children, don’t you get weary, there’s a great camp-meetin’ in the promised land. Gonna walk and never tire, there’s a great camp-meetin’ in the promised land. Gonna sing and never tire, there’s a great camp-meetin’ in the promised land. Gonna shout and never tire, there’s a great camp-meetin’ in the promised land. Oh, walk together children, don’t you get weary, there’s a great camp-meetin’ in the promised land.”*

©2000 Hal Leonard Corporation

### **III. RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

#### **INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

*In addition to your support of the church’s ministries, today you are invited to participate in a free-will offering for the Our Own Thing Instructional Program in Ypsilanti, Michigan. Our Own Thing Chorale was formed by internationally renowned bass/baritone and instructor at the University of Michigan, Willis Patterson. The chorale is committed to the preservation and performance of the Spiritual and contemporary works by African American composers. Through their Instructional Program, they provide free instrumental and vocal instruction to low-income children in the Ypsilanti and Ann Arbor area. You are invited to make a gift to this ministry today. If you feel moved to do so, please make out your check to FPCRO, but mark it or your envelope for “Our Own Thing.”*

#### **OFFERTORY**

“I Want Jesus to Walk with Me”

arr. Raymond Haan

~Chancel Choir

*“I want Jesus to walk with me. All along my weary journey, I want Jesus to walk with me. In my trials, Lord, walk with me. When my head is bowed in sorrow, I want Jesus to walk with me. When I am dying, Lord, walk with me. When I am on my bed of sorrow, O Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.”*

©1987 MorningStar Music Publishers

#### **\*DOXOLOGY**

Hymn #34

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen***

#### **\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

#### **SCRIPTURE READING**

1 Thessalonians 4:13-17

Pew Bible, NT pg. 219

## SPIRITUAL

### “City Called Heaven”

arr. Hall Johnson

~Noah Rogers

*“I am a poor pilgrim of sorrow, I’m tossed in this wide world alone, no hope have I for tomorrow, I’ve started to make heaven my home. Sometimes I am tossed an’ driven, Lord, sometimes I don’t know where to roam. I’ve heard of a city called Heaven, I’ve started to make it my home. My mother has reached that pure glory, my father’s still walkin’ in sin, my brothers and sisters won’t own me, because I am tryin’ to get in. Sometimes I am tossed and driven, Lord, sometimes I don’t know where to roam. I heard of a city called Heaven, I’ve started to make it my home.”*

©1930 ren. 1958 Robbins Music Corporation

## PRAYER and THE LORD’S PRAYER<sup>S</sup>

*Today’s prayer is a compilation of work by Cole Arthur Riley, a writer, liturgist, and speaker. She serves as the spiritual teacher in residence with Cornell University’s Office of Spirituality and Meaning Making. She is the creator of Black Liturgies, a website and ministry that integrates spiritual practice with Black emotion and literature and the Black body.*

**All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen**

## IV. FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

### \*HYMN #538

#### “Deep River”

Text & Music: African-American Spiritual Public Domain

### \*BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

#### “Improvisation on *We Shall Overcome*”

Carl Haywood

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*\*Indicates please stand as you are able.*

- 1 Antonio Maurice McNeill, “Our God Who Are in Heaven,” a paraphrase of the Lord’s Prayer written to be sung to the tune of Nettleton, and dedicated to the historic Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta, Georgia.
- 2 Thea Bowman, “Black Song is Sacred Song,” *Center for Action and Contemplation*, February 8, 2021.
- 3 Philip Morgan, “Spirituals as faith formation,” *Presbyterian Today*, February 11, 2020.
- 3 Bileen Guenther, *In Their Own Words: Slave Life and the Power of Spirituals* (Saint Louis: MorningStar Publishers, 2016).
- 4 Cole Arthur Riley, prayer posted on Black Liturgies website, <https://colearthurriley.com/writing/project-one-64g3t>

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## Notes on the Organ Music:

**Prelude: *Elegy for the Time of Change*** was composed by Robert A. Harris in 2020. Harris, a native of Detroit, received both his Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Wayne State University. He received his Ph.D. in composition and theory from Michigan State University, and completed post-doctoral work at the Aspen Music School. Harris began his teaching career in the Detroit Public Schools, became an assistant professor at Wayne, Director of Choral Activities at Michigan State, and then joined the faculty of Northwestern University as professor of conducting and director of choral organizations.

The composer writes: *"The impetus for writing this piece was a sermon, delivered shortly after the lamentable death of George Floyd, by the Rev. Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop and Primate of the Episcopal Church. In that sermon, he delivered words of solace, love, and hope that the United States, struggling with polarization, mistrust, and disparity, might come together as a unified nation of brotherhood, peace, and equality. Most moving and memorable were his recurring references to words of the spiritual Balm in Gilead. Those words of assurance were the real inspiration for Elegy. Brief musical quotes from the spiritual occur throughout the piece, representing the aspiration that we as a people will soon unite, revive our collective spirits, and heal the wounded, sin-sick soul of our nation."*

**Postlude: *Improvisation on We Shall Overcome*** was composed by Carl Haywood for the MLK service at St. James's Church, Richmond, Virginia in 2012. Dr. Haywood, an eminent composer, arranger, conductor, and teacher, is a graduate of Norfolk State University, and holds Masters degrees in both Organ and Choral conducting from Southern Methodist University. He received his DMA from the University of Southern California. Dr. Haywood served for 26 years as the organist/choir director of Grace Episcopal Church, Norfolk, and has served the church on the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music for the Episcopal Church of America, and as Director of Music for the Union of Black Episcopalians. He was also an editor and leading contributor to the African American Hymnal **Lift Every Voice and Sing**.

***We Shall Overcome*** has an interesting history. The first few bars seem to derive musically from a hymn first published in 1792, *O Sanctissima*. The basic frame of the words come from *"Till Overcome Some Day,"* a hymn written by the Rev. Charles Tindley, a famed black preacher in Philadelphia in 1901. The first appearance of the modern version of the song comes from 1945, when workers went on strike at The American Tobacco Company cigar plant. Workers ended each day's protest by singing this song which they taught to Zilphia Horton, a musician and strike organizer. Ms. Horton later taught the song to folk singer Pete Seeger.

In 1960, at the founding convention of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee in Raleigh NC, Guy Carawan was asked to lead the delegates in song. Guy, a musician and friend of Zilphia Horton, chose *We Shall Overcome*. It was an immediate hit and caught on as a staple for civil-rights protests and social-justice movements. The Library of Congress calls it the most powerful song of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

**Readers: Ken Noble, Marie Anderson, Ken Millinger, and Susan Bakker**

**PROGRAM STAFF**

Rev. Emma Nickel, Pastor, ext. 206, enickel@fpcro.org

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Meredith Batcheller, Child Care Provider



*Our church is a Stephen Ministry church. Stephen Ministers are lay caregivers who are trained to provide high-quality confidential, Christ-centered care to people who are hurting.*

The **CHANCEL FLOWERS** today are given by Pam & Gary Moultrup in celebration of 49 years of marriage.

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Next **Sunday, May 29**, there will be one worship service at 10:30 am.  
Blessings for the Memorial Day Weekend.

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### **Take the Motakhasiv Family Grocery Shopping or Help with Childcare**

We need the congregation's help to schedule drivers for grocery store and food pantry visits for our Afghan refugee family, and to help with child care for the remaining children while parents shop. Visit the Signup Genius and select a time to help: <https://tinyurl.com/bdhasfdp> *In agreement with our church policy, individuals spending time with the children will need to have a background check on file at the church. Contact Joelle Jarrait to complete this simple step.*  
Questions? Contact Ted DeVantier, Benny Rediers, or call the church office.

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### **Rise Against Hunger Today!**

After worship **today** we will package an extraordinary number of meals that will be sent around the world. Lunch will be served in the Fireside Room before we begin packing. The volunteer event begins at 12:30 pm in Kirkman Fellowship Hall.

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### **Mission Opportunity**

Volunteers are needed to provide lunch at Starr Presbyterian Church for South Oakland Citizens for the Homeless **May 24**. Questions? Contact Helen Dusenbury [hdusenbury@gmail.com](mailto:hdusenbury@gmail.com) or 248-417-3044.

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### **Flower Dedications**

Slots are still available to make a flower dedication to celebrate, honor, or remember friends and family. Sign up on the Flower Dedication chart in the hallway, fill out a card and include a check for \$45. Place the items in the basket at the reception desk. Thank you!

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### **Coffee Hour Fellowship**

On the second Sunday of each month through August, Coffee Hour Fellowship after the 10:30 service will resume. Upcoming dates are **June 12, July 10, and August 14**. Volunteers and donations of goodies are always welcome. Contact Candace Rieck at [4ccrieck@gmail.com](mailto:4ccrieck@gmail.com).  
We look forward to seeing you there!

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### **Senior Vocal Recital**

The Watson family invites you to enjoy an afternoon of free music in the sanctuary on **Sunday, June 5 at 2 pm**, with Grace Watson, accompanied by Joseph Jackson.