

Ephraim Moravian Church
Martin Luther King, Jr. Sunday
January 17th, 2021 at 10.00 a.m.

Order of Service

“It is Well with my Soul” – Hymn, by Horatio Spafford & Phillip Bliss

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship: *Psalm 139: 1-6 & 13-18*

Hymn #707: “Lift Every Voice and Sing”

Lift every voice and sing, ‘til earth and heaven ring
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty!
Let our rejoicing rise, high as the listening skies
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea!
Sing a song, full of the faith that the dark past has taught us
Sing a song, full of the hope that the present has brought us
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun
Let us march on, ‘til victory is won!

Stormy the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod
Felt in the days when hope un-born had died
Yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet
Come to the place for which our people sighed?
We have come, over a way that with tears has been watered
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered
Out from the gloomy past, ‘til now we stand at last
Where the bright beam of our bright star is cast!

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears
Thou who hast brought us thus far on the way
Thou who hast by thy might led us into the light
Keep us forever in the path, we pray
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee
Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee
Shadowed beneath thy hand, may we forever stand
True to our God, true to our native land!

Prayers of the Church & The Lord's Prayer

Congregational Sung Response (#71, Red Hymnal)

Light of the world, into our hearts, let your full glory shine

That we may follow now your star, until we reach your shrine. Amen.

Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 3: 1-20

Reflection

“How Beautiful are the Feet of Them that Preach the Gospel of Peace” – by G. F. Handel

Sermon

Hymn: “We Shall Overcome”

We shall overcome, we shall overcome

We shall overcome some day

Oh, deep in my heart I do believe

We shall overcome, some day!

We'll walk hand in hand, we'll walk hand in hand

We'll walk hand in hand some day

Oh, deep in my heart I do believe

We'll walk hand in hand some day!

We shall all be free, we shall all be free

We shall all be free some day

Oh, deep in my heart I do believe

We shall all be free some day!

We shall live in peace, we shall live in peace

We shall live in peace some day

Oh, deep in my heart I do believe

We shall live in peace some day!

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Benediction

“Impromptu No. 1” – by Samuel Coleridge-Taylor

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Reflection: “Hearing Voices” – by Pastor Dan G. Olson

If I were to proclaim that with my own ears that I literally heard God’s own voice speaking to me, almost certainly some would say that I am several sandwiches short of a picnic. That’s an honor I could do without.

But really, I do hear God speaking, and so do you. Often God’s voice can be heard in the unlikeliest places. My very first Sunday school teacher, Marie, was a friendly and kind woman who had the fortitude to conquer my complete rebellion at being left with this woman I didn’t know. But she won my heart. She was present at my ordination many years later. Surely, God spoke through her.

God speaks to us on our parents’ laps, in the Bible, in Church, through a beautiful sunset, in music, by gazing at the night sky. We hear God’s voice clearly at the birth of a child, or in a gentle smile. And the list goes on.

We are encouraged to pray without ceasing. So often though, we inundate God with a Gatling gun full of words. Prayer is a dialog, really, and it serves us well to be silent so we can hear God speaking to us.

Four times Samuel heard God calling as we read in Samuel, Chapter 3. This is how Samuel came to know the Lord and subsequently grew to be a trusted servant and prophet.

Every person alive has a purpose in life, even if they don’t know it. By speaking to us God shows us the way and reveals our inner strength and purpose. These are words you can trust your life with.

Are you listening?

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Pastor.....Dawn E. Volpe
Music Director.....Colin Welford
Guest Singer.....Cynthia Stiehl



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