

# PEACE

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



April 3, 2022

## Shalom – a Journey through Lent God’s Justice

**Prelude** Handchimes  
“Processional in G” D. B. Dawn

**Welcome**

### **Opening Words**

We come to this sacred place,  
Hearts prepared to hear a word about shalom – Your Peace  
From oppression and violence, liberate us.

**Bring your justice**

When you call us, we will answer.  
When you challenge us, we will act.  
From oppression and violence, liberate us.

**Bring your justice**

In this time together, open our hearts and minds  
To the possibility of Your Peace – shalom  
From oppression and violence, liberate us.

**Bring your justice**

Opening Response "What Does the Lord Require of You?" Jim Strathdee

1. What does the Lord re - quire of you?  
2. Jus - tice, kind - ness,  
3. To seek jus - tice and love kind - ness

The first system of the musical score consists of three staves. The top staff is the vocal line, starting with a first ending bracket. The middle staff is the alto line, starting with a second ending bracket. The bottom staff is the bass line, starting with a third ending bracket. The lyrics are: "What does the Lord re - quire of you? Jus - tice, kind - ness, To seek jus - tice and love kind - ness".

What does the Lord re - quire of you?  
walk hum - bly with your God.  
and walk hum - bly with your God.

The second system of the musical score consists of three staves. The top staff is the vocal line. The middle staff is the alto line. The bottom staff is the bass line. The lyrics are: "What does the Lord re - quire of you? walk hum - bly with your God. and walk hum - bly with your God."

**Prayer of Invocation** Dom Helder Camara

Come Holy One!  
Do not smile and say you are already with us.  
Millions do not know you  
and to us who do,  
what is the difference?  
What is the point of your presence  
if our lives do not alter?  
Change our lives,  
Shatter our complacency.  
Make your word our life's purpose.  
Take away the quietness of a clear conscience.  
Press us uncomfortably.  
For only thus  
that other peace is made,  
your peace. Amen

**Children's Time**

**The Witness of Music** Folk Choir  
"If I Had a Hammer" Pete Seeger  
Copyright 1958 Ludlow Music

**Readings:**

**Isaiah 11: 1-9**

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse,  
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.  
The spirit of the Holy One shall rest on him,  
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the spirit of counsel and might,  
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Holy One.  
His delight shall be in the fear of the Holy One.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,  
or decide by what his ears hear;  
but with righteousness he shall bring justice to the poor,  
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;  
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,  
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.  
Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,  
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb,  
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,  
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,  
and a little child shall lead them.  
The cow and the bear shall graze,  
their young shall lie down together;  
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.  
The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,  
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.  
They will not hurt or destroy  
on all my holy mountain;  
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord  
as the waters cover the sea.

**I Too** by Langston Hughes

I too, sing America  
I am the darker brother  
They send me to eat in the kitchen when company comes  
But I laugh and eat well and grow strong  
Tomorrow, I'll be at the table when company comes  
Nobody'll dare say to me, "Eat in the kitchen"  
Then, besides  
They'll see how beautiful we are and be ashamed  
I, too, am America

For the wisdom contained in these holy words, we give thanks. Amen

Sermon Rev. Wendy Bruner

Hymn "For Everyone Born" Text: Shirley Murray

Alt. Text: Christopher Grundy

For eve - ry - one born, a place at the ta - ble  
For all gen - ders made, a place at the ta - ble,  
For each race and land, a place at the ta - ble,  
For each way to love, a place at the ta - ble,

for eve - ry - one born, clean wa - ter and bread;  
re - vis - ing the roles, de - cid - ing the share,  
en - rich - ing the feast with lan - guage and song  
a cov - e - nant shared, a wel - com - ing space,

a shel - ter, a space, a safe place for grow - ing  
with wis - dom and grace, di - vid - ing the pow - er,  
new fla - vors for some, a ref - uge for man - y  
a rain - bow of ways to in - car - nate car - ing

for eve - ry - one born, a star o - ver - head. And  
for all gen - ders made a sys - tem that's fair.  
for each race and land, the wel - come of home.  
for each way to love, the chal - ice of grace,

God will de - light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice and  
joy, com - pas - sion and peace: yes God will de - light when we are cre  
a - tors of jus - tice jus - tice and joy.

## **Joys and Concerns**

### **Prayer**

Creator, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be your name.  
Your kin-dom come, your 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 yours is the kin-dom, and the power,  
and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

## **Communion**

**Prayer:** Come, Holy Spirit, come.  
Bless this bread and bless this fruit of the vine.  
Bless all of us in our eating and drinking  
that our eyes might be opened,  
that we might recognize the risen Christ  
in our midst, indeed, in one another.  
Come, Holy Spirit, come.

## **Pray of Thanksgiving**

Gracious God, you have once again shown us your love  
by bringing us to this meal.  
We go from here renewed in faith,  
renewed in courage,  
and strengthened by your presence.  
Thank you for loving us so tenderly.  
Thank you for challenging us  
to know you better and to receive you more fully. Amen

## **How shall we join God's work in the world?**

Gracious God, we give thanks and ask your blessings on the many and diverse gifts we  
bring to join you in your work in the world.

## **Benediction**

**Postlude** "Our Refuge and Strength" Donald F. Callender  
Copyright 1990 Lorenz Publishing