



Kenilworth Union Church
Service of Worship
January 17, 2021
Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
9:30 a.m. Online

CONNECT TO WORSHIP at 9:30 a.m.

Prelude

Retrospection

Florence Price

Call to Worship

Martin Luther King, Jr., 1929–1968

When our days become dreary with low-hovering clouds,
and our nights become darker than a thousand midnights,
let us remember that there is a great benign power
in the universe whose name is God,
and God is able to make a way out of no way,
and transform dark yesterdays into bright tomorrows.
This is our hope for becoming better human beings.
This is our mandate for seeking to make a better world.
Let us worship God.

Opening Hymn

When Israel Was in Egypt's Land

arr. Melva Wilson Costen

1. When Israel was in Egypt's land, let my people go;
Oppressed so hard they could not stand, let my people go!
Go down, Moses, way down in Egypt's land;
Tell old Pharaoh: let my people go!
2. "Thus saith the Lord," bold Moses said, Let my people go!
If not, I'll smite your firstborn dead." Let my people go!"
Go down, Moses, way down in Egypt's land;
Tell old Pharaoh: let my people go!
3. "No more shall they in bondage toil: let my people go!
Let them come out with Egypt's spoil: let my people go!"
Go down, Moses, way down in Egypt's land;
Tell old Pharaoh: let my people go!
4. O let us all from bondage flee; let my people go!
And let us all in Christ be free: let my people go!
Go down, Moses, way down in Egypt's land;

Opening Prayer

Martin Luther King, Jr., 1929–1968

Please add your voice virtually from wherever you are to this responsive prayer.

Lector: God, grant that right here in our land, and all over the world, we will choose the high way:

All: A way in which the nations of the world will beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks;

Lector: A way in which every person will respect the dignity and worth of all human personalities;

All: A way in which every nation will allow justice to run down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream;

Lector: A way in which people will do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God.

All: A way in which people will be able to stand up in the midst of darkness, and be able to love their enemies, bless those that curse them, pray for those who despitefully use them.

Lector: This will be that day when all people, no matter the color of their skin, will join together and stretch out their arms and cry out: “Free at last! Free at last! Great God Almighty, we are free at last!” Amen.

Ministry of Music

Precious Lord Take My Hand

Thomas Dorsey

Precious Lord, take my hand,

Lead me on, let me stand;

I'm tired, I'm weak, I am worn;

Through the storm, through the night,

Lead me on to the light;

Take my hand precious Lord, lead me home.

When my way grows drear, precious Lord linger near;

When my life is almost gone,

Hear my cry, hear my call,

Hold my hand lest I fall;

Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

When the darkness appears, and the night draws near;

And the day is past and gone;

At the river I stand,

Guide my feet, hold my hand;

Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

Precious Lord, take my hand,

Lead me on, let me stand;

I'm tired, I'm weak, I am worn;

Through the storm, through the night,

Lead me on to the light;

Prayers of the People

Thanksgivings and Intercessions

Tithes and Offerings

Announcements from the Life of the Church

Prayer of Dedication

God, you call us to generosity.

You call us to bold kindness.

You bind us together.

You call us to trust you into the future, yet unfolding.

Let every act of generosity be a sign of trust, O God,
a willingness to follow you into this new wilderness.

Transform today's offering into tangible acts of justice and joy.

And bless us as we seek out the grace of care and friendship,
connection and kindness in the week to come. Amen.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture and Sermon

1/3	Matthew 6:9–13	Heavenly Father	<i>Help, Thanks, Wow! The Lord's Prayer</i>
1/10	Exodus 3:1–15	Holy Name	<i>Near as the Air, High as the Stars</i>
1/17	Luke 12:22–34	Kingdom Come	<i>The First Reich</i>
1/24	Exodus 16:13–21	Daily Bread	<i>Enough Is Enough</i>
1/31	Matthew 18:21–35	Forgiving Trespasses	<i>Chapter 11</i>
2/7	Psalms 91	Deliver Us	<i>Strong Deliverer</i>
2/14	Psalms 29	Power, Glory	<i>Wow and Awe</i>

Closing Hymn

Lift Every Voice and Sing

#563

1. Lift every voice and sing till 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, till victory is won.

2. Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod,
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
Yet, with a steady beat, have not our weary feet
Come to the pace for which our fathers 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, till now we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

Thou who has 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.

Benediction

Postlude

Improvisation on *We Shall Overcome*

Carl Haywood

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+++ Plate Offering +++

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Worship Notes

The great American poet James Weldon Johnson wrote the text of *Lift Every Voice and Sing*, today's closing hymn, on Abraham Lincoln's birthday in 1900 for a school assembly, where Booker T. Washington was the guest speaker. Mr. Johnson's brother Rosamond, a renowned composer and performer in vaudeville and on Broadway, wrote the music for his brother's poem. This hymn is often called *The Black National Anthem* and is sung by freedom lovers everywhere.

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PARTICIPANTS:

Lisa Bond, Minister of Music, Media Production

William Evertsberg, Senior Minister, Preacher

Joel Fox, Audio and Video

Miya Higashiyama, Soloist

David Honoré, Hymn Soloist

Susan Klotzbach, Organist

Becky Knight, Guest Liturgist

Milestones: The congregation celebrates the birth of Jane Therese Sortal on January 5, daughter of Scott and Sara (Stutz) Sortal, and granddaughter of Paul Sortal. We extend the sympathy of the congregation to the family of Barbara Balsley upon the death of her husband, Bob Balsley on January 11.

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

[Cats for Waterford Nursing Home Follow Up:](#) Thanks to the support of youth and their families, we raised enough money to purchase three companion pets and a UV sterilizer box for the residents at Waterford Nursing Home in Rogers Park. We also had enough help to assemble 150 gift bags with hand-written notes, including a small gift and candy in each. It was a blessing to bring joy to those who have been isolated for so long, even though we were not able to visit and carol for them this year. Please keep residents and staff of Waterford Nursing Home in your prayers.

[Help, Thanks, Wow: The Lord's Prayer Sermon Series:](#) According to Anne Lamott, there are only three really good prayers: help, thanks, wow. According to Jesus of Nazareth, the best prayer is only 38 words long (at least in the Gospel of Luke). Annie and Jesus are both masters of the simple. Join us next week at worship for *Enough is Enough*, all are welcome.

[The Lord's Prayer:](#) These virtual classes recorded in summer 2020 are an illuminating complement to the sermon series "Helps, Thanks, Wow: The Lord's Prayer."

[Online Bible Study:](#) *A Story of Homecoming*, the parables of Luke 15 invite the reader to experience home not as a place, but a relationship. Join the Reverend Christine V. Hides and friends online on Wednesdays, [review the introductory class here](#). Henri Nouwen's book, *The Return of the Prodigal Son* will support this study, however it is not required reading. All are welcome.

[Annual Outreach Benefit Leadership Needed!](#) We need two volunteers to co-chair this year's April 30 Outreach Benefit, which is the largest source of funds for Kenilworth Union's Agency Grant Program. With the continuing pandemic and economic fall-out, the needs are greater than ever. If interested or for more information, please contact Outreach Committee co-chair [Wendy Yamada](#).

[Chat with Bill Evertsberg:](#) Bill talks with Marion Hanold about congregational care in the time of pandemic and shifting leadership. While Katie Lancaster, is on sabbatical, please contact [Kathy McCabe](#) our administrative hub, for any and all congregational care milestones, needs, or follow-ups that come up during Katie's absence.

[COVID-19 Updates:](#) please click through to view the church's guidelines and check the calendar for the latest updates.

MUSIC MINISTRY

A throwback favorite from days gone by, combined choirs and congregation belt out [Holy Holy Holy! Lord God Almighty!](#) Thank you for the gift of music! Blessings in the New Year.

WORSHIP

[Sundays at Kenilworth Union Church:](#) Join us at [Sunday Online Worship at 9:30 a.m.](#), Outdoor Worship and Worship in the Sanctuary have been temporarily suspended.

[Mid-Day Prayer:](#) Each week a new liturgy is offered [livestream](#) at 12:15 p.m. We meet for 15 minutes to read scriptures and hear a brief reflection. On Tuesday, January 19 we will pray for the following Kenilworth Union families: Judith Wentz, Kipley & Karin Wentz, Tiffany Wentz, Greg & Margy Werd, Tommy & Lucy Werner, Jeff & Beth Wessel, John & Denise Wettersten, Arnim & Jeanne Whisler, Corey & Kris Whisner, Randy & Jane Whitchurch, Chuck Whitchurch, Bob & Susan Whitcomb, Jane White, Randy & Katie White, Randy & Lisa White, Anne Whittlesey, John Whittlesey, Liz Wiczorek, Brad & Susan Wigdale, and Brian & Barbara Williams.

RACIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

Racism is incompatible with Christian values and Church teaching. As Christians, we endeavor to "do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with the Lord our God." —Micah 6:8. [May the weekly fact from the RJC strengthen this endeavor.](#)

[HEROS Martin Luther King Legacy Online Workshop:](#) Join the Racial Justice Committee today, January 17 at 2 p.m. for an anti-racism workshop to assess and honor Dr. King's legacy in our community by learning to take action on how we can achieve Dr. King's Beloved Community here in New Trier Township. [Reservations are required.](#)

[Speaker Series from the Racial Justice Committee:](#) Registration is required.

- Monday, January 25 at 7 p.m. Todd Maxman, New Trier Social Studies Faculty, will present on "Race on the North Shore: Some Local History in Our Community and in Our Schools."
- Monday, February 1 at 7 p.m. Robin Steinberg, CEO of The Bail Project, will do a presentation on "Reimagining Justice in America."
- Monday, February 8 at 7 p.m. Rabbi Samuel Gordon of the Congregation Sukkat Shalom in Wilmette will lead a book discussion on Isabel Wilkerson's, *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents*.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

A Blessing to Walk Around In: The Reverend Dr. Katie Snipes Lancaster has put together daily devotionals for the winter months on Art, Poetry, Music, and Nature for the New Year. Those who are registered for daily devotionals are enrolled for *A Blessing to Walk Around In*. [Click here to register to receive a daily devotional.](#)

Exploring Grief Group: The group meets online every Thursday from 7–8:30 p.m. beginning February 4 for eight consecutive sessions. This free series provides a confidential, supportive, and educational environment to grieve the loss of a loved one or friend. [Click here for more information.](#)

YOUTH MINISTRY* Follow [@kucyouth Instagram](#)

[Junior High Youth Group for 7th and 8th Graders:](#) All youth, regardless of church affiliation, are invited to join us online for a fun meetup with games and candle-time talks. Meet on Wednesdays at 6 p.m. online.

[Junior High Youth Group Outdoor Event:](#) Pre-register now for Snow Tubing at Wilmot Mountain Resort on Wednesday, January 27 or February 3 at 6 p.m.

[College Break Work Day:](#) Volunteer with Silvi Pirn on Wednesdays in January at two of Kenilworth Union Chicago Based Outreach Agencies: Humble Design and Greater Chicago Food Depository.

[IMPACT 2021 is On!](#) We have reconfigured to offer a condensed mission trip program. The destination Reveal Night is Sunday, February 21. Click through for dates.

**for more information on Youth Ministry Programs please contact [Silvi Pirn](#).*

YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH

This pandemic has been tough on youth. At Kenilworth Union we are responding ...

#mentalhealthmondays The Kenilworth Union staff is offering encouraging and practical help to support mental health in a series of posts on the [@kucyouth Instagram](#) appearing every Monday. Follow KUC Youth Instagram to get these encouraging messages!

Youth Mental Health Team: we are seeking interested high school youth to help make plans for programs that support the mental health of peers and younger youth. Contact [Kate Revord](#).

KUC Cares is a group of teens who are here to support youth who are facing challenges. The challenges might be related to physical or mental health, or just emotional burden or distress. To get care for yourself or someone you know, [complete this survey](#).

CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRY*

—Online Only—[The Winter Catalog highlights ministry events from January 10–February 14:](#)

- Sundays: 9 a.m. *Family Chapel*; 9:25 a.m. *Entering In to Worship*; 11 a.m. *Third Grade Bible Milestone*; and 11 a.m. *Drawing Close to God*
- Tuesdays: 4 p.m. *Faith234*
- Wednesdays: 5 p.m. *Middle School Youth Group*
- Thursdays: 4 p.m. *Storytime*

[Click here for information and to register.](#)

**for more information on Children and Family Ministry Programs please contact [Greta Connor](#).*

GREEN TEAM

[End Plastic Pollution Discussion:](#) Join a February 3 at 7 p.m. discussion with the focus on problems of single-use plastics, framed by the movie *The Story of Plastic*, and how we can be part of the solution, framed by the Shedd Aquarium's new initiative *Let's Shedd Plastic*.

[Weekly Tip:](#) Focus on reducing the amount of meat we eat, especially red meat. —Lisa Kaylie, North Carolina

We are a Stephen Ministry Congregation.

If you would like to learn more, please contact a [Stephen Leader](#).

Care Guild Leader for January is [Kris Whisner](#).

To let us know where help is needed, call Care Guild at (847)853-3534

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 17, 2021

COVID-19 UPDATES

- Sun., Jan. 17
- 6 a.m. A Blessing to Walk Around In Daily Devotional—Online
 - 9 a.m. Family Chapel with Godly Play—Online
 - 9:25 a.m. Enter In to Worship—Prepare with Children & Family Ministry Video
 - 9:30 a.m. Online Worship—Livestream
 - 11 a.m. Third Grade Bible Milestone—Online
 - 11 a.m. Drawing Close to God—Online
 - HEROS Martin Luther King, Jr. Legacy Workshop—Online
- Mon., Jan. 18
- Offices and AJN Preschool closed in observance of MLK
 - 6 a.m. A Blessing to Walk Around In Daily Devotional—Online
- Tues., Jan. 19
- 6 a.m. A Blessing to Walk Around In Daily Devotional—Online
 - 12:15 p.m. Mid-Day Prayer—Livestream
 - 4 p.m. Faith234—Online
 - 7 p.m. 21+ Theology on Tap—Online
- Wed., Jan. 20
- 6 a.m. A Blessing to Walk Around In Daily Devotional—Online
 - 9:15 a.m. Online Bible Study: A Story of Homecoming—Online
 - 10 a.m. Men's Coffee—Online
 - 1 p.m. College Break Work Day—Off Site
 - 2 p.m. Knitting Ministry—Online
 - 5 p.m. Middle School Youth Group—Online
 - 6 p.m. Junior High Youth Group—Online
 - 7 p.m. A Chat with Bill Evertsberg—Online
- Thur., Jan. 21
- 6 a.m. A Blessing to Walk Around In Daily Devotional—Online
 - 4 p.m. Storytime—Online
- Fri., Jan. 22
- 6 a.m. A Blessing to Walk Around In Daily Devotional—Online
- Sat., Jan. 23
- 6 a.m. A Blessing to Walk Around In Daily Devotional—Online