

The First Presbyterian Church in Pitman, NJ

*The Second Sunday of Epiphany,
Sunday before Martin Luther King Jr. Day*

Sunday, January 15, 2017 @ 10 AM – Rev. Paul Grenier

For Prayer & Contemplation

“Pity may represent little more than the impersonal concern which prompts the mailing of a check, but true sympathy is the personal concern which demands the giving of one’s soul.” -*Martin Luther King, Jr.*

Welcome & Sharing Information Please sign the Fellowship Pad.

Prelude “This Little Light of Mine: Improvisation” - Callahan

Call to Worship

One: We worship the God who inhabits our world and indwells our lives.

All: We need not look up to find God, we need only look around: within ourselves, beyond ourselves, into the eyes of another.

One: We need not listen for a distant thunder to find God,

All: We need only listen to the music of life, the words of children, the questions of the curious, the rhythm of a heartbeat.

One: We worship the God who inhabits our world and who indwells our lives.

All: So we speak out in prayer and sing out in praise for our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

***Hymn No. 339** “Lift Every Voice and Sing”

Prayer of Renewal

We turn to you often, O God, as we seek through prayer to find the meaning of life. Sometimes it’s a fervent prayer in the midst of serious mediation, but more often it’s a fleeting prayer on the run. We pray for patience when there are too many things to be done. We pray that you will awaken us to hear the cries of the poor, the homeless, the broken-hearted. Help us to redirect more of our resources to clothe the naked and feed the hungry. Mold us, O God, and open our hearts and minds to be willing vessels of your spirit. Amen.

Moment of Silence

Assurance of Forgiveness

***Hymn No. 584** “Glory, Glory, Glory”

“Glory, glory, glory, glory be to God on high! Glory, glory, glory, glory be to God on high! And on earth peace to all people in whom God is well pleased. And on earth peace to all people in whom God is well pleased.”

Passing of Peace

Anthem “Bwana Asifiwe” (Praise the Lord) - arr. Burrows
Sanctuary Choir

Time with Children (Dismissal to Sunday School)

Pastor: It is time for you to depart.

Adults: God be with you there.

Children: God be with you here.

Scripture Micah 6:6-8 (OT 866 / LP 1060)

Sermon “Following the Prophets” –*Rev. C. Paul Grenier*

A Covenant Prayer of Recommitment to Justice

One: O God, who has created your children to be free, we attest in word and deed that you are our God and we are your people. From our earliest days as the people whom you intend to be free, O God, you have called us forth from self-seeking bondage, comfort, complacency, and complaint, to freeing and redeeming action for justice everywhere in the world.

All: You are our freeing God, and we would be your free and freeing people.

One: O God of Exodus and the Burning Bush, of the Prophets and of Jesus, we hear your powerful calling to be your servants in the service of all those who are oppressed. At every turn we hear your voice in the cries of the poor, the hungry, the imprisoned, and the broken, for you made yourself one with those who seek justice, freedom, and peace. We share a vision, a promise, and a yearning for the day of your reign, O God.

All: You are our servant God, and we would be your serving people.

One: O God, our sustainer, search our hearts and reveal to us our sinfulness, all the ways that we contribute to injustice and to self-destroying bondage. Give us deep courage to find the true path of your way, ready to give our very selves as living sacrifices for your will. We have heard your calling. Hear us now as we make our pledge.
(*All rise, if able).

All: You are our God and we are your people. We pledge ourselves now to pursue relentlessly that living, breathing justice which transforms persons and peoples. To your will for justice we recommit ourselves and pledge ourselves, our funds, our actions. Through Christ we pray. Amen.

Presentation of Tithes/Offering

Offertory “We Are Marching in the Light of God” - arr. Farlee

***Doxology No. 606**

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

***Unison Prayer of Dedication**

Most righteous and loving God, may this offering be used to build your church and strengthen your people. May we create a sanctuary for those pursued by injustice. May we provide a welcoming community for those who are outcast and alone. May we raise up prophets to speak truth to power, and may we shine your light in all the dark places of your world.

The Prayers of the People

Patricia Collins, Joyce Stewart, Phyllis Bullock-Beaufait, the family of the Rev. Dr. Kate Killebrew, Rev. Keith Reed, Dolores Cheesman and family, the family of Debbie Rose, the family of Kay Euler, Tom Hahn, the family of Dan Romano, the family of Helen Fitzpatrick, Ken Swain, Bobbi Wilkins, Helena Roberts, the family of Eric King, Joe Carmichael, Bill McFarland, Fred & Doris Oltmann, Carol Owens, the family of Kevin & Liz Gianfortune, Colleen Printy, Gary Wriggins, Cathy Russo, Debby Guarni, Jackie Kummer, Jennette Roesly, Marie Roberts, Deborah McLaverty, Robert Kressly, John Tignor, Nic Albadine, Dot Clay, Rachel Ledden-Albadine, Betzaida Plaza, Lorraine Kaltreider, Renee Farrell, Glenn Raudenbush, Erin Fitzpatrick, Montana Lovelace-LaPierre

The Lord’s Prayer

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.

***Hymn No. 853** “We are Marching in the Light of God”

Benediction

Benediction Hymn No. 540 “Farewell, Good Friends!”

“Farewell, good friends! Farewell, good friends! Shalom, shalom. Till we meet again, till we meet again, shalom, shalom.”

Postlude "We Have Seen the Lord" (Nimemwona Bwana) - arr. Roschke

**Please stand as you are able.*

Worship Notes

Adapted from: Ruth Duck and Maren C. Tirabassi, eds., Touch Holiness: Resources for Worship Coretta Scott King, The Words of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Please be advised that our worship service is filmed from the balcony. Though the camera's focus is primarily on the chancel, there are wide shots that may include parts of the congregation sitting near the front.

Coffee Hour is provided by our neighbors at the Pitman Convenience store. Please stop by and thank Mr. Ken Patel for his generous contribution to our church.



Thank you to our Worship Servers	
Acolyte	Ellie Sanker
Liturgist	Elaine Scheetz
Greeter	Doris Ducat
Ushers	Sue LaPierre, Dave Nicastro, Karen Daly, Linda Waller
Tellers	Jean Brod, Bobbi Wilkins, Bob Webb
Officer of the Month	Peggy Price



Music Notes

The music today was chosen especially in celebration of the legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The prelude comes from Charles Callahan's "Suite on Afro-American Hymn Tunes." Mark Burrows' 2015 anthem combines a traditional Swahili text and tune with the hymn tune "Lobe den Herren" (Praise Ye the Lord). The postlude is Ronald Roschke's 2011 setting of a Tanzanian tune from a collection of global freedom songs. We thank the Sanctuary Choir for sharing special music with us this morning.

Birthdays of the Week

January 15 to 22

- 17** David Wible
- 18** Karen Gallo
- 19** Daryl Hulitt
- 20** Ryleigh Wichart
- 21** Carly Lovelace, Jackson Riggs



This Week's Calendar

January 15 to 22

Sunday 15	10 AM Worship 11:15 AM Sunshine Singers 11:15 AM Christian Education – Up Kitchen 1:30 PM Harriet Tubman – Sanctuary
Monday 16	
Tuesday 17	
Wednesday 18	10 AM Joy Circle 1 PM Faith Circle 7 PM Pastor Nominating Committee – ML
Thursday 19	7 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal 8 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
Friday 20	
Saturday 21	9:30 AM Grace Circle
Sunday 22	10 AM Worship 11:15 AM Sunshine Singers



Inclement Weather Cancellation Policy

In the event of inclement weather, the chair of the Property Committee in conjunction with the pastor shall make a decision regarding cancellation of services by 7 AM Sunday. In the event of cancellation, either the pastor or the Property chair will update the website, Facebook, and social media. In addition, the pastor will record an announcement on the church answering machine. The pastor will call all appropriate chairs.

The First Presbyterian Church in Pitman

"God's Open House"

10 Wildwood Avenue
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Sunday Worship Service @ 10 AM
Communion on the first Sunday of the month
Sunday School every week, 10:20-11:05 AM

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