



LIVE-STREAM WORSHIP SERVICE

PRIDE

3-week Worship Series: "The Legacy of Persistent Faith and Justice"



Breaking Barriers
Rev. Israel (Izzy) Alvaran,
Guest Preacher

Sunday, September 13, 2020
15th Sunday after Pentecost
Celebration of Divine Worship

WELCOME

Rev. Pamela Kurtz, Pastor

MOMENT OF SILENCE *Let us prepare our hearts and minds in silence to worship God.*

CALL TO WORSHIP [*Responsive*]: **COME OUT!**

read by: Becky Dean & Kathleen Bell

Come out,

**you who have been entombed
in silence, in fear, in condemnation,**

come out!

Come out to the one who loves you.

**You who are afraid for your life,
who are afraid of your life,**

**you who are ashamed,
you who have been bound,**

come out into your own life!

**You who have been told you're unworthy,
you who are afraid of failing,**

come out into your whole life.

**You who are wounded and grieving,
who are hopeless or depressed,**

you who wonder if you'll ever live deeply,
come out into life's fullness.

**You who are well defended in your fortresses,
in armor, in costumes, come out.**

Gays and abuse victims, transgender and shy,
gifted and doubtful, queer and other,
you can come out.

**Come out of your closets, out of hiding,
out of exile, out of the wilderness.**

You have a place, and the tomb is not it.

**The One Who Weeps for You
calls to you.**

You are wanted. You are mourned.

Come out.

**And you who have rolled the great stones
over other people's lives,
roll them back. Stand aside!**

Never mind the stench.

Call to them. Open your arms.

Unbind them.

Let them go.

Steve Garnaas-Holmes, Unfolding Light www.unfoldinglight.net

OPENING SONG

In the Midst of New Dimensions

TFWS 2238

In the midst of new dimensions, in the face of changing ways. Who will lead the pilgrim peoples wandering in their separate ways?

[Refrain]:

**God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar,
We your people, ours the journey now and ever, now and ever,
now and ever more.**

*As we stand a world divided by our own self-seeking schemes, Grant that we,
your global village might envision wider dreams*

**God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar,
We your people, ours the journey now and ever, now and ever,
now and ever more.**

*We are man and we are woman, all persuasions, old and young, Each a gift in
your creation, each a love song to be sung.*

**God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar,
We your people, ours the journey now and ever, now and ever,
now and ever more.**

*Should the threats of dire predictions cause us to withdraw in pain, May your
blazing phoenix spirit, resurrect the church again.*

**God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar,
We your people, ours the journey now and ever, now and ever,
now and ever more.**

NOTE ABOUT WRITER: This hymn was written by Rev. Julian Rush, a United Methodist minister who served churches in Dallas, Denver, Boulder and Colorado Springs for 17 years, until he acknowledged his own identity as a gay man.

When he came out, the United Methodist church in Boulder decided he was no longer fit to be their minister, and stopped paying his salary.

READING OF SCRIPTURE

Acts 2:14-21 (CEB)

Kathleen Bell

Peter stood with the other eleven apostles. He raised his voice and declared, “Judeans and everyone living in Jerusalem! Know this! Listen carefully to my words! These people aren’t drunk, as you suspect; after all, it’s only nine o’clock in the morning! Rather, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

In the last days, God says,

I will pour out my Spirit on all people.

Your sons and daughters will prophesy.

Your young will see visions.

Your elders will dream dreams.

Even upon my servants, men and women,

I will pour out my Spirit in those days,

and they will prophesy.

I will cause wonders to occur in the heavens above

and signs on the earth below,

blood and fire and a cloud of smoke.

The sun will be changed into darkness,

and the moon will be changed into blood,

before the great and spectacular day of the Lord comes.

And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

MESSAGE

**“PRIDE: The Legacy of Persistent Faith and Justice”
Breaking Barriers**

Rev. Israel (Izzy) Alvaran, Organizer: Reconciling Ministries Network

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor Pam will lift up prayer requests previously sent to her.

When the pastor says "Lord," the people respond: "Hear Our Prayer."

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**We invite you to use any other name to refer to the Divine with which you are comfortable ~ God, Father, Mother, Creator, etc.*

***Our *Creator in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever.***

Amen.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

INVITATION & PRAYER OVER OFFERINGS

Please prepare your checks for mailing, or cash for drop off at the church office while our Music Director leads us in our Thanksgiving Song.

THANKSGIVING SONG **We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise**

***We bring the sacrifice of praise, into the house of the Lord.
We bring the sacrifice of praise, into the house of the Lord.
We bring the sacrifice of praise, into the house of the Lord.
We bring the sacrifice of praise, into the house of the Lord.
And we offer up to you the sacrifices of thanksgiving.
And we offer up to you the sacrifices of joy.***

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION & RESOLVE

Kathleen Bell

Loving God, we are glad that you have drawn us together again. We come as a motley people from a motley world, seeking your amazing and abundant love which is radically inclusive. We pray with

thankfulness for those prayers you have already answered - and with hearts of hope for those things yet to be.

O Holy One, we express our gratitude as we rejoice as a community that our pride is found in you. Thank you for our celebration as an expression of our joy in love. May our pride always be a reflection of appreciation for who it is you have created us to be.

Bless our differences as a source of our strength and a sign of our respect for one another. Bless our calls for equality, inclusivity, and freedom that we may both hear and speak and act and work for your vision of justice and of peace. Thank you for being ever faithful in hearing and answering our prayers. We pray now for our world, our leaders, our community, our church.

We praise you, O God, for hearing us and calling us to come unto you, for meeting us wherever we are and taking us farther than we dreamed. We thank you and we pray to you in the power of the Spirit, knowing that you listen to us always. Amen.

(from Metropolitan Community Churches Pride Tide 2017 website)

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION & HOPE

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

The One who breathed life into our lungs continues to be present with us. God, who has made us reflective of their own image, has forgiven us all and made us new creations. Let us go forth with love and peace, honoring and upholding the dignity of all we meet, knowing we see reflections of God's image all around.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Go to your windows now, open them, and with joyful noise proclaim,
“Peace be with you all!” then come back!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION & SHARING HOLY COMMUNION

GRATITUDE TIMES *Gratitudes previously sent to Rev. Pam will be shared.*

*Come, live in the light
Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord
We are called to be light for the kingdom
To live in the freedom of the city of God*

[Refrain]:

***We are called to act with justice
We are called to love tenderly
We are called to serve one another
To walk humbly with God***

*Come, open your heart
Show your mercy to all those in fear
We are called to be hope for the hopeless
So all hatred and blindness will be no more*

***We are called to act with justice
We are called to love tenderly
We are called to serve one another
To walk humbly with God***

*Sing, sing a new song
Sing of that great day when all will be one
God will reign and we'll walk with each other
As sisters and brothers united in love (united in love)*

***We are called to act with justice
We are called to love tenderly
We are called to serve one another
To walk humbly with God
We are called to act with justice
We are called to love tenderly
We are called to serve one another***

To walk humbly with God

BENEDICTION

Rev. Pam

All raise hand, palm facing outward and wave goodbye.