




SOUTHMINSTER

Presbyterian Church

Sunday, January 16, 2022

AN INCLUSIVE, WELCOMING COMMUNITY OF CHRISTIAN FAITH.
OUR MISSION IS TO MANIFEST CHRIST'S LOVE IN THE WORLD.

Order of Worship (cont.)

OFFERTORY

Chariot's a' Comin'
by Elaine Schram

*CLOSING HYMN

We Are Marching in the Light of God"
#853 verse 1

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Come, Christians Join to Sing
arranged by Mark Hayes

FELLOWSHIP

In person or on Zoom

Please keep in mind that
Monday, January 17 is a holiday
and the office will be closed!

NEXT THREE SUNDAYS

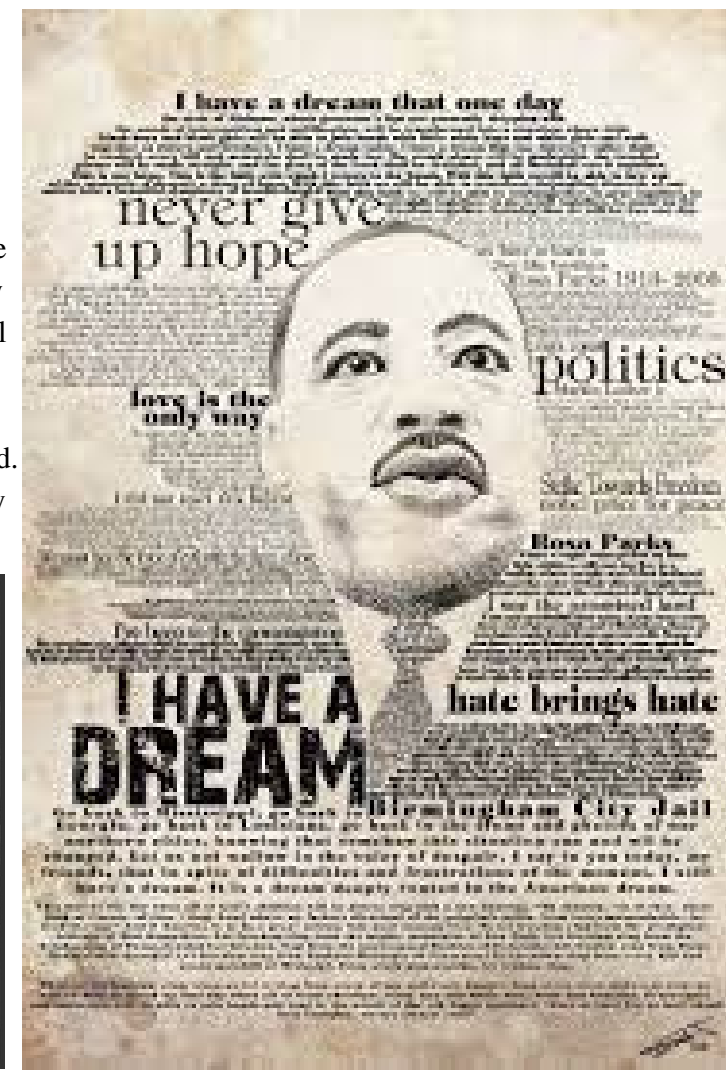
Southminster Presbyterian Church has determined that we should pause in-person services for the next three weeks. Many other churches and synagogues in our area have taken (or are about to take) similar actions.

Our number one goal is keeping our members safe, but we also want to contribute to the well-being of our community and state. We want to contribute to keeping our health system open and functioning well. The rate of infection driven by the Omicron variant of CoVID-19 is now quite high in Washington County, and we now know of several members of our congregation that have contracted it within the last week. Probably, there are others who have been infected also and don't even know it.

Martin Luther King, Jr.

January 15, 1929 - April 4, 1968

"Now is the time to make real the promises of democracy. Now is the time to rise from the dark and desolate valley of segregation to the sunlit path of racial justice. Now is the time...to lift our nation from the quick sands of racial injustice to the solid rock of brotherhood. Now is the time to make justice a reality for all of God's children."



PRELUDE

Hyfrydol by Hal. H Hopson
Southminster Handbell Choir

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*For those who are able, please stand

- Annual Meeting Sunday, January 23 after services in person & on Zoom
- Puerto Rico Mission trip

CENTERING & LIGHTING CANDLES

Lay Reader: Aleta Parker
Choir Director: Steven Schaefer
Pianist: Kenn Willson
Handbell Choir Director: Dan Anajovich

PAUSE FOR REFLECTION

Martin Luther King, Jr.

“People who are devoid of the power to forgive are devoid of the power to love.”

*CALL TO WORSHIP

(based on a poem written by Sandi Nesbit)

Let us come together today – to celebrate community; to reconcile and forgive; to dream "God's World";

Let us dream a world where difference is seen as blessing; where colors mix in a universal dance; mingling, blazing forth.

Let us dream a world where we make room in ourselves for the beauty of another, where we are all nurtured and cared for – from the weakest to the strongest. Let us dream a world where all gather:

Manual laborers and managers and ministers; scientists and sociologists and spiritual seekers; musicians and mathematicians and medical practitioners; rationalists and risk-takers; politicians and poets and plumbers.

Where all of us gather and come together to celebrate God's awesome Spirit.

Let us dream a world where all young people will be invited into the center of society – where their ideas, curiosity and energy can be respected and used creatively.

Let us dream a world where God's Spirit shines forth in us; shimmers in our courage and compassion and weaves us into a community.

Let us dream a world where we celebrate the amazing richness of our diversities. Then we might all be held close in God's heart; be reconciled to God and each other; be transformed.

May God Gather us in to make this dream possible.

OPENING HYMN

Here in This Place (Gather us In)
401 verses 1, 2, & 4

CHILDREN'S TIME

Keep the Dream Alive,
Martin Luther King, Jr.
Children and youth are dismissed.

HEBREW READING

Micah 7:1, 7-9

“What misery is mine!

I am like one who gathers summer fruit at the gleaning of the vineyard;

there is no cluster of grapes to eat, none of the early figs that I crave.”
“But as for me, I watch in hope for the Lord,

I wait for God my Savior;
my God will hear me.

Do not gloat over me, my enemy!
Though I have fallen, I will rise.

Though I sit in darkness,
the Lord will be my light.

Because I have sinned against God,
I will bear the Lord's wrath,
until God pleads my case
and upholds my cause.

The Lord will bring me out into the light;
I will then see only justice and mercy.”

THEME READING

Martin Luther King, Jr.

“When our days become dreary with low-hoovering clouds of despair, and when our nights become darker than a thousand midnights, let us remember that there is a creative force in this universe, working to pull down the gigantic mountains of evil, a power that is able to make a way out of no way and transform dark yesterdays into bright tomorrows.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Songs of Worship and Praise
Southminster Handbell Choir

SERMON

Remaining Present
Rev. Don Ludwig

*RESPONSIVE HYMN

We Shall Overcome
#379 verses 1, 2, & 5

PASTORAL PRAYER

Naming Joys & Concerns
Guided Meditation

CORPORATE PRAYER

Opening Prayer of Reflection (based on prayer from Gifts of Many Cultures)

Shining, Surprising, Grace – full God, for the times we avoid the searchlight of your desire for us; for the times we turn away from your dream;

Forgive us.

For preferring the safe, the familiar and the certain to the risky, the unknown and mysterious future to which you call us;

Forgive us.

For failing to believe in the dream of justice; for allowing our own pain to fill us with bitterness towards others;

Forgive us.

For fearing those who are different from ourselves and projecting onto them what we cannot accept within our own depths;

Forgive us.

For times we allow the hopelessness or discouragement of our past to pull us astray from God's path;

Forgive us.

Set us free, we pray, to be whole human beings; to live lives of graciousness and justice; to life our voices and hearts in praise and joy.

Amen.

Through all our living, we our fruits must give.

Good works of service are for offering.

When we are giving, or when receiving,

We belong to God. We belong to God.

We belong to God. We belong to God