

Worship Service for June 18, 2023

Prelude Marshall Davies

Chiming of the Hour Pam Laham

Welcome Pastor Felix Carrión

Centering Moment Pastor Felix Carrión

Praise & Worship Songs Congregation

"I Choose You"

I choose you to follow my way, to follow my way

I choose you to grow and to change, to grow and to change

(Refrain) I choose you to be my love.

Be my love in the world

I choose you to be my love.

Be my love in the world

I choose you to live as a friend, to live as a friend

I choose you to try it again, to try it again

I choose you to be my love.

Be my love in the world

I choose you to be my love.

Be my love in the world

I choose you to live as a gift, to live as a gift
I choose you to go and bear fruit, to go and bear fruit

I choose you to be my love.

Be my love in the world

I choose you to be my love.

Be my love in the world

Announcements

Pam Laham

Call to Worship

Pam Laham

LEADER: Come into this sacred space to seek the presence of the Holy One. Come into this sacred space to know the Good News of Jesus.

ALL: Here we journey and join together in divine unity and in the joyful embrace of love and acceptance.

LEADER: Come into this holy place to celebrate who you are and who we are.

ALL: Here we open our hearts and receive the sacred gifts of our precious souls and identities. Here sacred interconnectedness is experienced and we are made new.

*Praise & Worship Song

Congregation

Sing! #12 "Come, My People" v. 1 & 3

(ppt 10) Come, my people, welcome to worship.

Love is in the warmth of this place.

Sing to God a song of thanksgiving,

Sing to God a song of praise!

(ppt 11) Gather in safety, welcomed in Christian love; God touches us with strength from above.

(ppt 12) Come, my people, welcome to worship.

Love is in the warmth of this place.

Sing to God a song of thanksgiving,

Sing to God a song of praise!

(ppt 13) Stand with each other in one community, working together God's reign to give.

Gathering Prayer

Pam Laham

ALL: Come, Loving One, the Light of our lives, to renew us and creation. Send the truth that sets us free and opens the doors of our hearts and minds. We gather as one people who call upon you and who trust in your unfailing presence and illumination. We greet you with reverence and welcome you! Amen.

Biblical Witness

Pastor Felix

Philemon verses 12-16

I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from

you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, no longer as a slave but as more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

Contemporary Witness

Pam Laham

"How The Word Is Passed: A Reckoning With The History of Slavery Across America" by Clint Smith General Granger and his forces arrived in Galveston more than two years after Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation and more than two months after Robert E. Lee's famous surrender...It was on June 19, 1865, soon after arriving in Galveston, that Granger issued the announcement, known as General Order Number 3, that all slaves were free and word began to spread throughout Texas, from plantation to plantation, farmstead to farmstead, person to person.

Reflection

"Juneteenth"

Special Music

"I Choose Love"

In the midst of pain, I choose love.

In the midst of pain, I choose love.

In the midst of pain, sorrow falling down like rain,

I await the sun again, I choose love.

I choose love.

In the midst of war, I choose peace.

In the midst of war, I choose peace.

In the midst of war, hate and anger keeping score,

I will choose the good once more, I choose peace.

I choose peace.

When my world falls down, I will rise.

When my world falls down, I will rise.

When my world falls down, explanations can't be found,

I will climb to holy ground, I will rise.

I will rise.

In the midst of pain, I choose love.

In the midst of pain, I choose love.

In the midst of pain, sorrow falling down like rain,

I await the sun again, I choose love.

I choose love.

Pastoral Prayer

Pastor Felix Carrión

Invitation to Offering

Pam Laham

Rainbow Railroad

Offertory Music

Marshall Davies

Doxology

Congregation

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Praise God all creatures here below

Praise God for all that Love has done

Creator, Christ, and Spirit one Amen.

Offertory Prayer

Pam Laham

ALL: O Holy One, may these gifts serve to bless our congregation and community. May they be used in service of your holy will here on earth. Amen.

*Praise & Worship Song

Sing! #192 "Carry the Light"

We have all witnessed Your presence.

We have all received Your grace.

We give You honor and glory.

For moving in this place.

Now we go out to share the Good News.

Now we go out to share Your love.

Carry the Word!

Carry the Word!

Carry the Word to all the earth!

Carry the Word!

Carry the Word!

Carry, O carry Jesus' Word!

Carry the Word!

Carry the Word!

Carry the Word to all the earth!

Carry the word!

Carry the word!

Carry, O carry Jesus' Word!

Benediction

Pastor Felix Carrión

*Song of Parting

Congregation

Sing! # 192 "Carry the Light" (Sing twice)

Carry the Light!

Carry the Light!

Carry the Light to all the earth!

Carry the Light!

Carry the Light!

Carry, O carry Jesus' Light!

Carry the Light!

Postlude Marshall Davies

Today's Worship Participants

Worship Leader: Pam Laham

Sound: Tony Trosclair

Video: Amie and Shelby-Mak Friday

Projector: Cathy Normand

Pastor Felix Carrión

Designated Pastor

Plymouth United Church (UCC)

5927 Louetta Road, Spring, Texas 77379 pastor@plymouthunited.org

Moderator: Aimee Broadhurst

281-414-5487 moderator@plymouthunited.org

Interim Office Manager: Amie Friday 281-251-8147 officemanager@plymouthunited.org

Music Director: Dr. Marshall Davies musicdirector@plymouthunited.org