



Worship Service for November 20, 2022 Transgender Day Of Remembrance

Prelude	Marshall Davies
Chiming of the Hour	Jeff Mechler
Welcome	Pastor Mak
Centering Moment	Pastor Mak
Call to Worship	Jeff Mechler

LEADER: Holiness is not in the sky

ALL: The Sacred is not far off

LEADER: Through the rhythm of our hearts

ALL: We call forth the intentional presence of The Holy

LEADER: Through the beating of our hearts

ALL: We call forth our attention to The Presence

LEADER: Through the rhythm of our breath

ALL: We call forth our Divine Beloved who is within, without, and among us

LEADER: Breathing in

ALL: Breathing out

***Hymn**

Congregation

Sing! # 123 "Draw The Circle Wide"

Draw the circle wide.
Draw it wider still.
Let this be our song,
No one stands alone,
Standing side by side,
Draw the circle wide.

God the still-point of the circle,
'Round whom all creation turns;
Nothing lost, but held forever
In God's gracious arms.

Draw the circle wide.
Draw it wider still.
Let this be our song,
No one stands alone,
Standing side by side,
Draw the circle wide.

Let our hearts touch far horizons,
So encompass great and small;
Let our loving know no borders,
Faithful to God's call.

Draw the circle wide.

Draw it wider still.
Let this be our song,
No one stands alone,
Standing side by side,
Draw the circle wide.

Let the dreams we dream be larger,
Than we've ever dreamed before;
Let the dream of Christ be in us,
Open every door.

Draw the circle wide.
Draw it wider still.
Let this be our song,
No one stands alone,
Standing side by side,
Draw the circle wide.

A Biblical Witness of Lament & Proclamation

by Rev. Malcolm Himschoot

REV. MAK: (ADAPTED FROM PSALM 10)

How long, O God?

How long will transgender people suffer shame and loss
because of who we are?

How long must we bear pain in our souls, and have sorrow
in our hearts all day long?

How long shall we have enemies who persecute us, ridicule us, and gloat over us?

ALL: (FROM PS 13)

Consider and answer me, O Lord my God!

**Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep the sleep of death,
And my enemy will say, “I have prevailed.”**

JEFF: (FROM PS 10)

Why do you stand far off, hiding yourself in times of trouble?

In fear the violent attack the vulnerable –

Let them be caught in the schemes their hearts have devised.

In confusion and disturbance the oppressors say,

“There is no God who cares for the meek – No God will find me out.”

REV. MAK: (FROM PS 10)

Their mouths are filled with cursing and deceit and oppression

They sit in ambush

In stealth they murder the innocent.

The helpless fall by their might.

They think:

“God has forgotten the drag queens and cross-dressers, gender-queer people and intersex individuals, transgender

children and youth, transgender men and women – God has hidden God’s face.”

ALL: (FROM PS 10)

**Rise up, O Lord; O God, lift up your hand
Do not forget the oppressed.**

SILENT MEDITATION

JEFF: (MATTHEW 5:1-5)

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

ALL: (MATTHEW 5:6-9)

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

SILENT MEDITATION

REV. MAK: (FROM PS 2)

Why do murderers rage, and fearful people plot in vain?
Those in power, and those who long for power, conspire
Against the precious anointed of the Lord.

ALL: (FROM PS 2)

In heaven God laughs at their presumption.

**I will tell of the decree of the Living, Mighty God
Who said to me, “You are my child. Today I have
begotten you.**

**Ask of me, and I will make the earth itself your
inheritance.”**

1st Biblical Witness

Pastor Mak

Psalms 5

Give ear to my words, O Lord; give heed to my sighing.
Listen to the sound of my cry, my King and my God, for to
you I pray. O Lord, in the morning you hear my voice; in the
morning I plead my case to you, and watch. For you are not
a God who delights in wickedness; evil will not sojourn with
you. The boastful will not stand before your eyes; you hate
all evildoers. You destroy those who speak lies; the Lord
abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful. But I, through the
abundance of your steadfast love, will enter your house, I will

bow down toward your holy temple in awe of you. Lead me, O Lord, in your righteousness because of my enemies; make your way plain before me. For there is no truth in their mouths; their hearts are destruction; their throats are open graves; they flatter with their tongues. Make them bear their guilt, O God; let them fall by their own counsels; because of their many transgressions cast them out, for they have rebelled against you. But let all who take refuge in you rejoice; let them ever sing for joy. Spread your protection over them, so that those who love your name may exult in you. For you bless the righteous, O Lord; you cover them with favor as with a shield.

2nd Biblical Witness

Jeff Mechler

The Gospel Of Matthew 7:15 - 23

“Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thorns, or figs from thistles? In the same way, every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Thus you will know them by their fruits.

“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven. On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many deeds of power in your

All the treasures we believed we'd never ever lose.
Too many days gone by without their meaning,
Too many darkened hours without their peace.

Where O where has the innocence gone?
Where O where has it gone?
Vows we once swore, now it's just this letting go,
Where O where has it gone?

**Prayer of Confession for
Transgender Day of Remembrance**

Pastor Mak

Divine Beloved
You are spirit
You are truth

We are made
of flesh
of bone
of blood
and of spirit

We are created in your image
We reflect your brilliant and beautiful diversity

That brilliant and beautiful diversity is
hated and violated
tortured and killed
because it does not fit
the gender mold of the masses

When we live across gender
we are hated
abused
and killed

Today we remember our siblings
their flesh
their bones
their blood
and their spirits

Today we ask forgiveness
for our complicity with this violence through
silence
nervous laughter
thoughtless disregard
or baseless fear
of our siblings who beautifully defy
society's binary gender construction

Forgive us
Awaken us
Remind us
Transform us

***Hymn**

Congregation

Sing! # 122 "Pray"

Pray, pray, pray
For peace within our world.
Pray, pray, pray,

For peace within our souls.
Pray, pray, pray for love and unity:
Quiet our busy hearts.
Pray, pray, pray.
Pray, pray, pray.

Pray, pray, pray
For peace within our world.
Pray, pray, pray,
For peace within our souls.
Pray, pray, pray for love and unity:
Comfort our anxious hearts.
Pray, pray, pray.
Pray, pray, pray.

Pray, pray, pray
For peace within our world.
Pray, pray, pray,
For peace within our souls.
Pray, pray, pray for love and unity:
Open our angry hearts.
Pray, pray, pray.
Pray, pray, pray.

Pray, pray, pray
For peace within our world.
Pray, pray, pray,

For peace within our souls.
Pray, pray, pray for love and unity:
Nourish our hungry hearts.
Pray, pray, pray.
Pray, pray, pray.

Benediction

Pastor Mak

Postlude

Marshall Davies

Today's Worship Participants

Worship Leader: Jeff Mechler

Sound: Tony Trosclair

Video: Mark Vines

Projector: Amie & Shelby-Mak Friday

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