

CELEBRATING THE SABBATH
MLK weekend; Epiphany 2

January 17, 2020 at 10'clock



Almost always, the creative dedicated minority has made the world better.

The Reverend Doctor Martin Luther King, Junior

PRELUDE

Amazing Grace
Charles Goodwin, Trumpet

arr. John Carter

SHARING OUR WELCOME VIRTUALLY

WE COME TO WORSHIP

God said: "How long will you judge unjustly and show partiality to the wicked?"

God said: "Give justice to the weak and the parentless child; maintain the right of the lowly and the destitute."

God said: "Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked."

God said: "I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. Take away the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your harps.

But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever flowing stream."

- from Psalm 82 and Amos 5

HYMN #628

Precious Lord, Take My Hand
Join as you are able!

[Click here to see hymn](#)

**Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;
through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light:
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.**

**When my way grows drear, precious Lord, linger near,
when my life is almost gone,
hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall:
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.**

OPENING PRAYER

God of justice,
we confess that in the pursuit of our own dreams and desires,
we have not always been civil, not always humane, not always right.
Guided by your Spirit, we seek to enter into the creative work of social change –
to make it a little simpler for people to feed, clothe, and shelter themselves.
Help us to be your witnesses, by working for better conditions in our communities,
by advocating steadfastly for the rights of workers, the poor, and the bereft – the rights
of those we judge worthy and also the unworthy poor,
so that we can recognize and welcome positive change in the world, with your help.
Help us to love each other, to love our neighbor, and to love our enemy as our friend.
We pray for the partnership of your creative spirit as we enter into worship. Amen

A MOMENT FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

Lauren Dube

ANTHEM

Shed a Little Light
Rock Voices

James Taylor, arr. Tony Lechner

SCRIPTURE LESSON

[Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18](#)

Ray Epps

SERMON

Re-creating Christian Freedom

Erica Avena

A TIME OF 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.

RESPONDING WITH OUR GIFTS

A WORD FROM OUR MISSION PARTNERS

Gladys Molaro

Integrated Refugee & Immigrant Services "IRIS" New Haven, CT

Offertory

His Eye Is on the Sparrow

To Give an Online Offering Now: <http://www.whfirstchurch.org/donate/give>

Or Give by Text: Text *GIVE* to (860) 222-7870. Click [here](#) to watch a demo video.

Doxology, Words: Hymnal, No. 47; Tune: Hymnal, No. 46

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts: Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

HYMN #619

My Life Flows On
Join as you are able!

[Click here to see hymn](#)

**My life flows on in endless song, above earth's lamentation.
I hear the clear, though far off hymn that hails a new creation.**

**Refrain: No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since love is Lord of heav'n and earth, how can I keep from singing?**

**Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear that music ringing.
It finds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing? (Refrain)**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Every Time I Feel the Spirit
Charles Goodwin, Trumpet

arr. John Carter