
~INVITATION TO SHARING OUR GIFTS, TITHES, & OURSELVES~

DOXOLOGY: “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” UMH 94

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia!
Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

***OFFERTORY PRAYER: (UNISON)**

Your gifts to us are diverse and many. In gratitude for all you have given to us we offer these gifts of money. Yet, not only our monies—we also offer to you our time and our abilities. Use these gifts to make your love known throughout the world. We dedicate ourselves and all that we are to your work. This we pray in your Holy name. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN:** “Lift Every Voice and Sing” UMH 519

***~SENDING FORTH/BENEDICTION~**

L: Look forward, look back, look outward, look within, and look around! Learn your histories: those of your family and those of your faith. As you do, remember you are a beloved child of God, a precious sibling of Christ, and a treasured companion to the Holy Spirit. Stay blessed and bless up. —The Rev. Debbie McMillan

Pastor: In a world where we have, in the past, enslaved and dehumanized others, we go to treat each person with dignity and respect. In a world where profit is valued more than human life, we go to proclaim the priceless worth of each person. In a world where the ugliness of racism and White supremacy is found, we go to show that love conquers all social ills. Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor everyone; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you and remain with you always.

***POSTLUDE:** “Praise to the Lord” Arr. Franklin Ritter



5th AVE. UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

323 South 5th Avenue ~ West Bend WI 53095

Fifth Sunday After the Epiphany ~ February 5, 2023

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

When President Gerald Ford expanded Negro History Week into a full month in 1976, he said the country needed to “seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of Black Americans in every area throughout our history.” This statement still holds true.

Black History Month is a celebration of an amazing culture! Black Americans have made tremendous contributions to the fabric of America. For example, Dr. Shirley Jackson, a theoretical physicist, developed the touch-tone telephone, caller ID and the fiber-optic cable. Marie Van Brittan Brown invented the closed-circuit television security system, and Jesse Ernest Wilkins, Jr. created mathematical models to explain gamma radiation. Gerald A. Lawson, a largely self-taught engineer who became a pioneer in electronic video entertainment, created the first home video game system with interchangeable game cartridges.

Maya Angelou, treasured award-winning writer, poet, and speaker once stated: “No person can imagine where he/she is going unless he/she knows where they’ve been.”

Black History Month is not about cultural divide, but **UNITY!** It is a tool used to create and develop new awareness. Black history is **American** history and deserving of year-round educational curriculum. Let’s move forward by celebrating Black History Month beyond February and grow together in Christian unity, 365 days of each year.

Tom Blumenberg, Liturgist
Michelle Harrington, Singer
Rev. Clarissa Martinelli, Pastor

JOIN US IN PERSON OR ONLINE
Sundays, 9:30 A.M.

WELCOME TO FIFTH AVE. UMC

Whether you're just beginning to explore your faith or have been following Christ for years, you and your whole family can belong at Fifth Ave. UMC

*Note: L: denotes worship "Leader" ~ P: denotes "People"

~GATHERING GOD'S PEOPLE~

ORGAN PRELUDE: "Blessed Assurance" Arr. R.W. Thygerson
Deanna Gibeau, Organist

~WELCOME~

GREETING:

Pastor: Christ, the One who was, and is, and is to come, welcomes you to this place. As one body, with one voice, we honor and glorify the giver of wisdom, counsel, knowledge, and joy. God is love, and where God is there is love. There is no fear in love, perfect love casts out fear; let us celebrate the wonderful love that God has for all God's creation. Come!

~COME, LET US WORSHIP TOGETHER~

CENTERING MUSIC: "How Long, Oh Lord" Barbara Woollett & Christopher Norton

*CALL TO WORSHIP:

L: Good morning, friend.

P: Who me?

L: Yes! You.

L: Why are you here?

P: I am here to worship God with you!

L: Okay! Then come! Let us worship the one true God who embraces all equally.

All: Almighty God, source of Life and Life itself. Your Holy Spirit gathers us into your presence as a hen gathers her chicks to herself. In the safety of this sacred space—virtual or real—help us settle into this time of being together: individuals in shared community through Christ and with Christ. Help us push aside distracting thoughts that impede our learning and our listening. Help us uncover our fears: drive out each one with your perfect and perfecting love So that we can be changed in mind and will be changed in heart. Thank you for accepting us as teachable: thank you for accepting us as willing disciples willing to grow in our faith, in our Spirits, and in our connection to you and to one another.

*MORNING PRAYER:

L: Loving Lord, come by us, we pray. Come to:

The joyful ...

The excited ...

The grateful ...

The scared ...

The sad ...

The weary ...

The grieving ...

The distraught ...

The broken ...

All: Come to us all we pray.

PRAYING THRU SONG: "Kum Ba Yah ("Come by Here") UMH 494

The following verses:

Someone's praying, Lord,

Someone's crying, Lord,

Someone needs you, Lord,

WORDS OF ASSURANCE:

L: Friends in Christ, hear the words of the psalmist in Psalm 103:10–13: God does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is God's steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far that God removes our transgressions from us. As a father has compassion for his children, so God has compassion for those who fear him. Thanks be to God we are forgiven. **Amen!**

***HYMN:** "We Are Called" TFWS 2172

~WE PROCLAIM~

*Romans 16:17 **All: Brothers and Sisters, I urge you to watch out for those people who create divisions and who make others fall away from the Christian faith and divides the church by refusing to do what all of you were taught. Stay away from them!**

*Ephesians 2:14-15 **All: Christ has made peace between Jews and Gentiles, and he has united us by breaking down the wall of hatred that separated us. Christ gave his own body to destroy the Law of Moses with all its rules and commands. He even brought Jews and Gentiles together as though we were only one person, when he united us in peace. On the cross Christ did away with our hatred for each other. He also made peace between us and God by uniting Jews and Gentiles in one body.**

L: The Word of God for the People of God. **P: Praise to the Living Word.**

SPECIAL MUSIC "Going Home" from Dvorak's new World Symphony
Harmonica, Tom Blumenberg Soprano, Michelle Harrington

SERMON: Black History Month: "God Does His Best Work in the Midst of Unity"
Pastor Clarissa

~HOLY COMMUNION - GOD'S RELENTLESS INVITATION~

Pastor: This is the table of our Lord, a fellowship that endures history and the trials of our past, present and future with an invitation that rings out through communities and creation, calling you to come as you are. Come because you are beloved and invited, whether you know it or not, feel it or not. Come and be fed; come and find healing; come and be renewed for the journey ahead. Come and know that the Lord invites sinner and saint, oppressor and oppressed, colonizer and colonized, Indigenous and displaced, the corporate CEO and the migrant farmer, the bold and courageous and, the fearful and complacent, for we are one humanity, all children of our Creator, all in need of forgiveness and bread.

L: The Lord be with you.

P: And also, with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

P: We lift them to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

L: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

L: It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you praise God, for your beauty, goodness, creating power and divine care in making the world; establishing the covenant; teaching us how to care for one another and creation, speaking truth through the prophets; showing mercy in spite of our violence, selfishness and systems of oppression; and giving us the love of God in the gift of Jesus Christ.

With thanksgiving and faith, we remember the Lord Jesus, born into our world, breathing our air, celebrating our humanity, building community with all people of all ages: the despised, the popular, the powerful and meek; mourning our losses; dying in a state sanctioned death; faithful to everything God laid before him, and steadfast in his redeeming love for us. In resurrection he showed us that death and all that leads to death can be overcome by faithfulness and love.

Pastor: Holy Spirit, draw us into communion with Christ and with one another; to nourish us in Christ's body and in the beloved community you are making; to keep us faithful in ministry; and to hasten the coming of the reign of God, with justice and beauty.

Now praying as the Lord Jesus taught us, we say...

All: 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

When we share the bread, the pita, the tortilla and the rice, together we remember that Jesus was strongest and most powerful in his weakest and most vulnerable moments. This broken loaf is the bread of life.

When we fill this cup, we remember the common cup, and the abundant blessings that have been entrusted to us. This is the cup of blessing.

Christ, you have gathered us at your table, to bear witness to our unity in you. Fed and nourished, may we leave from here ready to be peace-keepers, God-bearers and Kin-dom builders.

These are the gifts of God for the People of God: **All: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:

All: Hear us Holy One, you created all human beings in your image and likeness. You have stamped each human person with a unique specialness, and all persons bear your image. Through that image you call on us to reflect your goodness, justice, and love to all the world. Remind us that when we speak out for justice, mercy, and compassion we are displaying the attributes we find in you. As we go to share with your Beloved Community your everlasting and generous grace and mercy, show us how to display you in everything we do. Show us how to respect your image in all human beings. Help us to defend your image that is found in all human beings. In your loving and accepting name we pray. Amen.

February is Black History Month!

So many things to explore & learn during Black History Month for kids! What a great time to learn about and celebrate African Americans– present-day and historical! Let’s explore amazing figures in history that you may not know.

PLAY RED LIGHT, GREEN LIGHT

You might ask what the game Red Light, Green Light has to do with Black History Month, but it all makes complete sense when you meet Garrett Morgan! Garrett Morgan was an African-American inventor who patented the 3-position traffic signal.

PLAY A GAME OF TELEPHONE

What does a game of telephone have to do with Black History Month...you are catching on, right?! Meet Granville T. Woods. Granville Tailer Woods was the first African American mechanical and electrical engineer after the Civil War. He held over 60 patents in the US many in the area of the telephone. He was best known for a system created for the railroad to alert the engineer as to how close his train was to others.

MAKE A TOILET PAPER TRAIN

Let’s meet Elijah McCoy! Elijah McCoy was born in Canada and was known for his 57 US patents which were concentrated on making the steam engine work better. He invented a lubrication system that allowed oil to be distributed evenly around the engine’s moving parts which decreased friction and allowed the engines to run longer, last longer and not overheat. Oh, and he is the one responsible for the common phrase, “*The real McCoy*”!

DOCTOR

Now, let’s meet Patricia Bath! Dr. Patricia Bath was the first African American to complete a residency in ophthalmology and the first African American female doctor to receive a medical patent!

Prayer: God, help us to value diversity beyond variety. Help us value diversity with a vision for a progressive future that acknowledges our strength together as well as the power, creativity, ideas, and part that we all bring when we are all welcome – to come to the table and taste and see that the Lord is good. Help us labor on until we all can sing, for good and right reasons: Oh, happy day! Amen.

Black History Month Word Search

F	T	C	P	U	L	R	S	K	N	A	M	B	U	T	A	V	L	G	F
S	U	D	E	P	W	H	L	W	O	Z	P	T	R	T	K	W	I	P	P
N	U	O	H	F	C	U	A	G	S	S	U	B	K	H	H	W	V	X	O
E	D	K	S	R	L	Z	V	D	N	F	W	K	I	N	G	A	I	P	A
W	T	J	A	R	I	G	E	N	I	O	Z	K	S	U	P	R	C	Y	B
O	C	M	F	M	V	W	R	O	B	Y	R	J	J	T	Q	A	E	O	V
B	L	U	E	S	I	M	Y	I	O	J	N	T	V	L	H	W	R	A	Z
M	R	O	O	I	C	A	D	T	R	A	O	M	S	U	W	G	C	K	N
C	O	M	F	C	U	N	W	A	O	Z	I	F	Z	M	Q	I	I	C	S
A	G	D	Q	A	H	K	O	P	E	Z	T	E	Z	K	R	M	U	R	M
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L	D	N	H	L	A	L	H	Q	Y	O	T	P	R	P	V	I	B	X	S
W	P	S	O	U	L	H	I	J	I	T	U	V	D	A	K	O	A	G	Z

ABOLITION	AFRICA	ALI
ARMSTRONG	ASHE	BLUES
BOYCOTT	BUS	CARVER
CIVIL	RIGHTS	CIVIL
WAR	DUBOIS	EMANCIPATION
EQUALITY	FREEDOM	GREENFIELD
INTEGRATION	JAZZ	JIM
CROW	MARCH	KING
OWENS	PARKS	RACISM
RIGHTS	ROBINSON	SEGREGATION
SLAVERY	SOUL	TRUTH
TUBMAN	TUSKEGEE	VOTING

