



PRAYER FOR PREPARATION

Beloved One, where hearts and spirits are breaking, come close. Hear the cries of the forgotten and lift the voices of the silenced. Let none be abandoned to ordinary evil, and stir all who slumber before injustice. Keep us awake to the needs of our neighbors, we pray. Amen.

PRELUDE

Anne Wilson, organ

WELCOME AND CARING FOR THE COMMUNITY

Rev. Jessie MacMillan

Worship Enrichment Resources can be found here: <https://fpccle.org/home/faith-formationhome>

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: What does the Lord require of you?

**All: To do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with our God.**

One: What does God command of us?

**All: To love God with all our heart,
and all our soul,
and all our mind,
and all our strength,
and to love our neighbor as ourselves.**

One: God does not call us to ease or to comfort.

**All: But to presence, and abundance,
and grace in our struggle.**

One: Let us worship the God who believes in us,
and trusts in us, and abides with us.

**All: Let us worship the God who will ask much of us,
but will be beside us every step of the way.**

HYMN 697 (see page 3)

Take My Life

HENDON

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Matthew 10:20-42

SERMON

"A Cup of Blessings"

Rev. Jessie MacMillan

SOLO

Nia (Purpose)

Alicia Hrubey, soloist

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S 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.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Anne Wilson, organ

Take My Life

697

1 Take my life and let it be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;
 2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;
 3 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;
 4 Take my sil - ver and my gold; not a mite would I with - hold;

take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in
 take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti -
 take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sa -
 take my in - tel - lect and use ev - ery power as

cease - less praise; let them flow in cease - less praise.
 ful for thee, swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.
 ges from thee, filled with mes - sa - ges from thee.
 thou shalt choose, ev - ery power as thou shalt choose.

5 Take my will and make it thine;
 it shall be no longer mine.
 Take my heart, it is thine own;
 it shall be thy royal throne,
 it shall be thy royal throne.

6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour
 at thy feet its treasure store;
 take myself and I will be
 ever, only, all for thee,
 ever, only, all for thee.

This hymn of consecration radiates from the repeated word "take," resulting in a remarkably full survey of a person's attributes and possessions and giving weight to the "all" at the end. The composer of the tune was influential in the renewal of Reformed hymnody in French.

The 21-Day Racial Equity Habit Building Challenge Is On!

Have you ever made a successful change in your life? Perhaps you wanted to exercise more, eat less, or change jobs? Think about the time and attention you dedicated to the process. A lot, right? Change is hard. Creating effective social justice habits, particularly those dealing with issues of power, privilege, supremacy and leadership is like any lifestyle change. Setting our intentions and adjusting what we spend our time doing is essential. Sometimes the hardest part is just getting started. The good news is, there's an abundance of resources just waiting to empower you to be a more effective player in the quest for equity and justice. Please join our staff and leadership in the **21-Day Racial Equity Habit Building Challenge** happening now. It's never too late to begin. For 21 days we will do one action to further our understanding of power, privilege, supremacy, oppression, equity using readings, podcasts, videos, observations and ways to form and deepen community connections. For more information, visit our webpage www.fpcclle.org, or speak to a staff member. We look forward to engaging with one another during this crucial, lifelong work toward justice with the 21-Day Racial Equity Habit-Building Challenge. Join us anytime!

SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Passing of the Peace

According to John's Gospel, the Risen Christ appeared to his disciples as they huddled behind locked doors and offered them the gift of peace (John 20:19). We invite you to share signs of Christ's peace with those with whom you are gathered, or to pass the peace virtually by calling, emailing, or texting your family and friends in our congregation and beyond.

Going Forth: Offering Our Gifts and Our Lives to God

With gratitude for the grace we have received, we go forth from worship to offer our energy, our hands, and part of our income in service to God. One way we respond to Christ's call is by giving our financial gifts to further God's mission in the world. You may mail a check to the church or make an online offering to support the many ministries of Fairmount Presbyterian Church by clicking the Giving tab on the homepage of our website (www.fpcclle.org).

New FPC Office Hours Starting Tuesday, July 7th

Starting Tuesday, July 7th, the FPC Office will be open Monday through Friday, 9:00am to 1:00pm, or by appointment. Please call 216.321.5800 to schedule an appointment outside of office hours. We ask that you wear a mask during your visit in the church building. If you do not have a mask, one will be provided for you. Please sign-in at the Welcome Center where a member of our staff will conduct a wellness check. We ask that you observe the social distancing signs and markings around the church. **Please note, the FPC Church offices will be closed on Monday, July 6th.**

Strawberry Shortcake Drive-Through Celebration! Sunday, July 5th, 11:00am to 1:00pm!

Join us for a Strawberry Shortcake Celebration at Fairmount. We will be serving your strawberry shortcake via drive through! Please fill out this form: <https://forms.gle/RwQmQwk5CsShyUAm7>, so that we know how much strawberry shortcake to make! You may pick up your strawberry shortcake order on Sunday, July 5th from 11:00am to 1:00pm.

Vespers Service: Wednesday, July 8th at 6:00pm

Join us for short Vespers service on the side porch lawn, Wednesday, July 8th, at 6:00pm. Please register to attend by filling out this form: <https://forms.gle/3BvPWm91M8t5Z8dx6>. Bring your own lawn chair, water and food if you wish. The lawn opens at 5:30pm and Vespers begin at 6:00pm. Due to social distancing measures, we are limited to 30 family units. In case of inclement weather, the event will be postponed, so check your email.

Taking a Break

This time of pandemic has been a lot to handle for all of us. With new challenges such as loss and grief, anxiety, economic hardship, caring for others while also working full time, loneliness or not enough alone time, social unrest, and more hours in front of screens, just to name a few, burnout is a reality that many are encountering. Spotting the signs of burnout and prioritizing your own self-care is essential during this time. But you are not alone. Pastor Lindsay is taking several weeks away from her work at church (June 22- July 20) – “tapping out” so she can tap back in and continue serving in ministry at Fairmount. She is grateful for this opportunity to combine continuing education and vacation time into a much needed break, and prays that doing so might also encourage you to find ways to rest in your own lives, however you can. Prayers are appreciated.

Staff Notes

- Amy Kim Kyremes-Parks, Director of Spiritual Formation will be away for the next few weeks. She is taking this time to attend to her health in partnership with her health providers. She will be unavailable during this time and plans to return in July. Please contact the church office for assistance with items related to faith formation while she is away.
- Christine Winters, Office Manager, will be away on Monday, June 29th.
- Leah Wyman, Artistic Director, will be on vacation Tuesday, June 30 - Tuesday, July 7.

General Assembly

There is no question, the 2020 General Assembly will be unlike any the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) has seen before. It's being held during a stunning season in American life - the aching time when more than 100,000 Americans have died from COVID-19, when protesters fill the streets night after night to protest racial injustice and the police killing of George Floyd, when churches are trying to live into the new realities of worshipping online, when the world seems to tilt in a new direction almost every hour and who knows what will come next? Fittingly, the new theme of this assembly is "From Lament to Hope" - the implications of which seem to expand day by day. Our own Natalily Kyremes-Parks is the Young Adult Advisory Delegate from the Presbytery of the Western Reserve. We are praying for you Natalily!

Prayer Requests During This Difficult Time

If you would like your prayer listed in our weekly Fairmount Prayer List which is sent to our prayer community, [fill out this form](#).



A GA like no other

by Leslie Scanlon, *Outlook* national reporter

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Virtual GA. This will be the **first time a PC(USA) assembly has met virtually** — all online, a technological challenge both for organizers and commissioners, something that many Presbyterians a generation ago probably never could have imagined. The assembly had been scheduled to meet in Baltimore June 20-27, but the Committee on the Office of the General Assembly (COGA) decided formally in April that, because of the need for social distancing, that couldn't happen.

New business? This assembly will be much shorter than usual (with plenary sessions streamed online on June 19, 26 and 27) and the agenda will be abbreviated. COGA's recommendation is to include only business considered "**critical and core**," and to refer everything else to the General Assembly two years from now (although commissioners could try to alter that when the

docket comes up for a vote June 19, if they feel there's particular business — such as action on social justice — that just can't wait).

There's a lot on the list to be referred to the General Assembly in 2022 — including PC(USA) policy on climate change, gun violence, financial sustainability, racial injustice, international concerns and much more — and there's been pushback from some Presbyterian groups to add more business to the docket this year, although time will be tight.

Here's another possibility. Once the assembly convenes, a commissioner could move to suspend the rules to introduce new business. Such a motion would need a two-thirds vote to prevail — but if enough commissioners feel the PC(USA) needs to speak or act, to offer the assembly's public witness on the COVID-19 pandemic or George Floyd's killing or the systemic inequities driving the protests in the streets, that could happen.

Leadership. Much of the "critical and core" business on which the assembly will be asked to vote is not particularly controversial. It includes, for example, confirmation of the election of leaders of PC(USA) agencies and changes in standing rules.

The assembly also will make decisions about leadership, including deciding **whether to elect J. Herbert Nelson for a second four-year term** as the denomination's stated clerk — the public face and chief ecclesiastical officer of the PC(USA) — and choosing among **three teams of candidates who are standing to serve as co-moderators** of this assembly.

Friday, June 19th

7:00 pm	Plenary 1 Standing Rules Docket and Business Co-Moderator Report
9:00 pm	Moderator Election

All times are EDT.

Friday, June 26th

11:00 am	Opening Worship
12:00 pm	Recess
1:00 pm	Plenary 2 Consent Agenda Critical Business Budget Orientation
3:00 pm	Recess
4:00 pm	Plenary 3 Critical Business
6:00 pm	Recess

Saturday, June 27th

11:00 am	Plenary 4 Stated Clerk Election Critical Business
1:00 pm	Recess
2:00 pm	Plenary 5 Critical Business
3:30 pm	Recess
4:30 pm	Plenary 6 Remaining Business Meditation and Music
6:30 pm	Adjourn

Money. The commissioners also will vote on budgets — budgets that reflect the financial pain of the PC(USA) and the struggles of small churches to survive. A COVID-19 Financial Team is projecting **income declines across the denomination** of about 25% in 2020 and 2021, and the budgets this assembly will be asked to approve have been scaled back from earlier proposals to reflect that.

The proposed General Assembly per capita rate is \$8.95 per member in both 2021 and 2022 — the same as it has been in 2019 and 2020. “An increase to the apportionment rate for 2021 is not politically, or economically, feasible,” a report from the COVID-19 Financial Team states.

Worship and action. The assembly also will include a worship service on June 26 in which Nelson will speak theologically about lament, injustice and hope. Presbyterians are invited to participate online in a series of events — including the **Poor People’s Campaign Assembly & Moral March on Washington** (being held digitally at 10 a.m. EDT June 20); a Youth Rising event featuring young entrepreneurs of color from Baltimore (at 3 p.m. EDT June 23); and Bible study led by James Elisha Taneti and Mary Florence Taneti, focusing on Lamentations 5:20-21 (in two identical 45-minute sessions, at 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. EDT June 24). The offering being taken during opening worship will go to support Youth Rising.

One benefit of a virtual General Assembly: Anyone with internet access can watch online, free

of charge and without registering, either on the **GA224 website** or the **Spirit of GA** Facebook page. All business items coming to the assembly can be found at **pc-biz.org**.

The exact order of business during the June 26 and 27 plenaries is still to be determined, but here’s the **outline of the docket** (see above, all times are EDT).

New ways. Among the unknowns are how well all this will work and what glitches – technological or otherwise – might emerge, such as how commissioners discern together if they’ve never met in person and can’t spend those extra minutes gathered in small groups to get to know one another, talk through a complicated proposal or to pray together.

Some are mourning the lack of in-person connection and also that visceral sense an assembly provides of being part of a broader connectional church.

This may, however, be the start of a new practice for the PC(USA) — one that’s certainly less expensive and perhaps more flexible. “We are talking about a major transformation in assemblies going forward,” Nelson has said. And also: “I don’t think we’re ever going to be the same church again.”

During General Assembly, stay up to date by visiting **pres-outlook.org/GA224** for assembly coverage, follow us on Twitter at **@presoutlook** and like us on Facebook to stay connected with what’s happening at GA.