



**St. Stephen's United Methodist Church
Norman, Oklahoma**



Special Assistance is available if you have difficulty hearing and would like to use one of our personal hearing devices, or need other assistance. Please ask a greeter for help. There are large print bulletins available as well.

This Week at St. Stephen's:

Today:		
4:00	Youth	Community Hall
6:00	Meditation	Zoom
Monday: MLK Jr Day, Church Office Closed		
Tuesday:		
7:00	Fiction Club	Zoom
Wednesday:		
2:30	Sacred Journey	Zoom
7:00	Choir	Zoom
Thursday:		
Friday:		
6:30	Living Room NA	Community Hall
Saturday:		

Video recordings of sermons are available at the website listed below, on our Facebook page, and on YouTube.

Email – ststephensumc@coxinet.net Website – <http://ststephensnorman.org>

Church phone: 405.321.4988

Onelicense.net #A-721089

God calls us to be partners in community and partners for justice. In the Spirit of Christ we will:

- ❖ *Care for one another*
- ❖ *Offer sanctuary and healing*
- ❖ *United head and heart*
 - ❖ *Do justice*

January 17, 2021

10:50am and online

Gathering Thoughts

Sharing our Joys and Concerns

Meditation

Nothing is gained with violence and much is lost.

Pope Francis

Reconciliation is a part of the healing process, but how can there be healing when the wounds are still being inflicted?

N.K. Jemisin

Justice is one of the core elements towards reconciliation and sustainable peace.

Frederica Mogherini

The country in which reparations actually happen is a very different one than the one we live in.

Ta-Nehisi Coates

The work of community, love, reconciliation, restoration is the work we cannot leave up to politicians. This is the work we are called to do.

Shane Claiborne

Ring the Bell

11:00 - Gathering Music

Welcome and Announcements

Candle Lighting

Call to Worship:

One: God hears the cries of the oppressed;

Many: speak to us, O God, so we may listen.

One: God notices the plight of the hungry and homeless;

Many: call to us, O God, to take notice.

One: God knows the struggles of the imprisoned;

Many: Open our hearts, O God, to Your mercy and justice.

One: God speaks to us, calling us by name,

Many: And we are listening, O God; ready to do Your will.

*From "Rev-o-lution Resources" by Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell,
<http://rev-o-lution.org>. Used by permission.*

Hymn

"Wounded World that Cries for Healing"

black #2177

Verses 1, 2

Prayer of Brokenness/Confession

God of justice, we confess that privilege allows us to not recognize the plight of those around us. We confess that the assumptions we have from our experiences shade how we view the struggles of others. We judge based on what we know, instead of learning from others views and understandings. Forgive us when we unintentionally cause harm by our assumptions and fail to recognize the ways others are oppressed by our actions, words, and most importantly, by our silent indifference. Call us into repentance and accountability. Help us to listen to the prophets of old as well as the prophets among us today. Guide us into thoughtful action to change our ways and dismantle the systems of oppression that we live in. In the spirit of Christ we pray. Amen.

*Rev-o-lution Resources by Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell,
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Sing to our Kids

"Where Children Belong"

black #2233

Children's Time

Hymn

"Breath of God, Breath of Peace"

green #3145

Verses 1, 3

Offering Ourselves, Our Tithes, Gifts, and Prayers

Offertory

Special Music

"Precious Lord"

Caroline Carter

Scripture Reading

Psalms 139: 1-6, 13-18

Sermon

"Wonderfully Made"

Rev. Jeannie Himes

Reflection

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Most compassionate Life-giver, may we honor and praise you: may we work with you to establish your new order of justice, peace and love. Give us what we need for growth, and help us, through forgiving others, to accept forgiveness. Strengthen us in the time of testing, that we may resist all evil. For all the tenderness, strength and love are yours, now and forever. Amen.

W Wallace

Benediction

Sending Forth

"Send Us Your Spirit"

green #3185

v. 3

**Teach us your wisdom, O Lord.
Shadows have clouded, have crowded our sight.
Give us hearts that see. Set our loving free.
Send us your Spirit, O Lord.**

Postlude

Wounded World that Cries for Healing

black #2177

Verses 1, 2

Words by Shirley Erena Murray; music by Hal H. Hopson

1. **Wounded world that cries for healing here we hold each other's pain, wounded systems, bruised and bleeding bear the load, the scars of strain; dollars ration out compassion, hard decisions rule the day, Jesus of the healing spirit, free us to another way!**
2. **Through our nation's spent frustration, through the corridors of stress may there move a kindlier wisdom all may feel, and all may bless; tax and tithe are for a purpose shared to shield the poor and weak; past the symptoms of our sickness let the voice of justice speak.**

Breath of God, Breath of Peace

green #3145

Verses 1, 3

Words by Adam M. L. Tice; music by Sally Ann Morris

1. **Breath of God, Breath of peace, Breath of love, Breath of life, Breath of justice, Breath of passion, Breath creating, Breath of healing, Breath of singing, Breath of praying, Come upon us, come restore us, come inspire us, Breath of God.**
3. **Voice of God, Voice of peace, Voice of love, Voice of life, Voice of justice, Voice of passion, Voice creating, Voice of healing, Voice of singing, Voice of praying, Come upon us, come restore us, come inspire us, Voice of God.**