

Galena United Methodist Church
Seventh Sunday After the Epiphany
February 20, 2022

African Americans have played crucial roles in the development of America. The recognition of those roles in growth and development from a historical perspective are an important step in celebrating the contributions of individuals and the collective changes the African American community has brought about. Through this lens of reform, may we examine anew our responsibility for the living out of God's Beloved Kingdom!

Liturgist: Suzanne Sproule
 Greeters: Marlene Niec
 Pianist/Organist: Cody Clayton

We Gather as the People of God

Prelude *Lift Every Voice and Sing* #519 UM Hymnal "Black National Anthem"
 Public Domain Lyrics: James Weldon Johnson, 1900/ Music: J. Rosamond Johnson, 1905

Welcoming Pastor Catiana

Threshold Moment *God Is So Good* TFWS #2056
 Songwriters: Traditional Public Domain

One: Trust in God.

All: We delight in God,

One: for God tends to the desires of our hearts,

All: and commits us to the bright day of justice.

One: Do not fret for God is near.

All: We come to worship because God is good!

One: May we know your presence, O God.

All: Reconcile us to our brothers and sisters, draw us nearer to each other through you.

One: Embrace with us, weep with us, that we may remember that we are family. Amen.

African American Spiritual *I've Got Peace Like a River* TFWS #2145 African American Spiritual
 I've got peace like a river I've got peace like a river
 I've got peace like a river in my soul
 I've got peace like a river I've got peace like a river
 I've got peace like a river in my soul
 I've got joy like a fountain I've got love like an ocean

Prayer of Confession and Words of Affirmation

Merciful One, we are not what we wish we were; we are often only what we desire.
We are love, when we love one another. We are strife, when we judge the other as less worthy than ourselves.

We are how we consider the other.

God, to be so much more. More in who we are. More in how we act. More in what we dream.
More in how we love. Let us become the more that you intended in your divine image. Amen.

God is our refuge in the time of trouble. God helps us, rescues us,
and leads us into the bright day of justice and mercy. Amen.

*Passing the Peace of Christ

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Preparing to Hear God's Word

I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

TFWS #2153

African American Spiritual; arr by Wendell Whalum © Estate of Wendell Whalum

1. I'm gonna live so God can use me Anywhere, Lord, anytime.

I'm gonna live so God can use me Anywhere, Lord, anytime.

2. ...work 3. ...Pray 4....sing

We Hear God's Word

Methodist Black History Moment

Preparing for God's Word

Order My Steps

Glenn Burleigh



Or-der my steps in Your Word, O God, Lead me, guide me, ev-er-y day. Send your a-noint-ing



God, I pray. Or-der my steps in your Word. Yes, or-der my steps in your Word.

Hebrew Scripture Reading

Genesis 45:3-11,15

Common English Bible (CEB)

³ Joseph said to his brothers, "I'm Joseph! Is my father really still alive?" His brothers couldn't respond because they were terrified before him. ⁴ Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me," and they moved closer.

He said, "I'm your brother Joseph! The one you sold to Egypt. ⁵ Now, don't be upset and don't be angry with yourselves that you sold me here. Actually, God sent me before you to save lives.

⁶ We've already had two years of famine in the land, and there are five years left without planting or harvesting.

⁷ God sent me before you to make sure you'd survive and to rescue your lives in this amazing way.

⁸ You didn't send me here; it was God who made me a father to Pharaoh, master of his entire household, and ruler of the whole land of Egypt. ⁹ "Hurry! Go back to your father. Tell him this is what your son Joseph says:

'God has made me master of all of Egypt. Come down to me. Don't delay.

¹⁰ You may live in the land of Goshen, so you will be near me, your children, your grandchildren, your flocks, your herds, and everyone with you. ¹¹ I will support you there, so you, your household, and everyone with you won't starve, since the famine will still last five years.' ¹⁵ He kissed all of his brothers and wept, embracing them.

After that, his brothers were finally able to talk to him.

Gospel Reading

Luke 6:27-38

CEB

After coming down from the mountain to level ground, Jesus was joined by his disciples and a large group of people who desired healing and his touch. He spoke on the meaning of true blessedness and then continued his message in today's passes.

²⁷ “But I (Jesus) say to you who are willing to hear: Love your enemies. Do good to those who hate you.

²⁸ Bless those who curse you. Pray for those who mistreat you. ²⁹ If someone slaps you on the cheek, offer the other one as well. If someone takes your coat, don't withhold your shirt either. ³⁰ Give to everyone who asks and don't demand your things back from those who take them. ³¹ Treat people in the same way that you want them to treat you. ³² “If you love those who love you, why should you be commended?

Even sinners love those who love them. ³³ If you do good to those who do good to you, why should you be commended? Even sinners do that. ³⁴ If you lend to those from whom you expect repayment, why should you be commended? Even sinners lend to sinners expecting to be paid back in full. ³⁵ Instead, love your enemies, do good, and lend expecting nothing in return.

If you do, you will have a great reward. You will be acting the way children of the Most High act, for he is kind to ungrateful and wicked people. ³⁶ Be compassionate just as your Father is compassion, healing and speaking of their blessedness, etc. ³⁷ “Don't judge, and you won't be judged. Don't condemn, and you won't be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. ³⁸ Give, and it will be given to you.

A good portion—packed down, firmly shaken, and overflowing—will fall into your lap.

The portion you give will determine the portion you receive in return.”

Response

I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

TFWS #2153

1 ...live 2 ...work 3 ...pray 4 ...sing

African American Spiritual

Witness to the Word

Loving the Difficult

Pastor Catiana

“*But I say to you that listen, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you*” (Luke 6:27).

Jesus makes a controversial claim about how to treat those who believe and act differently:

Love your enemies. Sustain all regardless of your judgment of them as good or bad.

Be merciful because God is merciful.

Here, Jesus turns our focus from an obsession with perfection to a posture of compassion.

Gracious God, empower our boldness, enliven our dreams and inspire our actions. Amen

We Respond to the Word of God

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus TFWS #2129 Words: Anonymous/Music: ASSAM

I have decided to follow Jesus; I have decided to follow Jesus;

I have decided to follow Jesus; No turning back, no turning back.

Invitation to Prayer

As part of God's family, our hearts are opened to pray for one another. If you have some prayer requests, please email, text or give me a call. Let us now prepare through song....

Prayer Song

I Want Jesus to Walk With Me

UMH #521

African American Spiritual/Adapter: William Farley Smith /Adapt. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing 1986

1 I want Jesus to walk with me. (walk with me) I want Jesus to walk with me. (walk with me)
All along my pilgrim journey, Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me. (walk with me)

2 In my trials, Lord, walk with me. (walk with me) In my trials, Lord, walk with me. (walk with me)
When my heart is almost breaking, Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me. (walk with me)

3 When I'm troubled, Lord, walk with me. (walk with me) When I'm troubled, Lord, walk with me. When
my head is bowed in sorrow, Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me. (walk with me)

We pray in the name of the one who taught us how to pray and love one another.

Prayer of Jesus:

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as 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, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen. FROM THE RITUAL OF THE FORMER METHODIST CHURCH

Sung: **I want Jesus to walk with me. (walk with me) I want Jesus to walk with me. (walk with me)
All along my pilgrim journey, Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me. (walk with me)**

Offering our Gifts

What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?
(Micah 6:8) Let us commit ourselves to acts of justice.

There are many ways you might support the ministries of this “Body of Christ”

You may donate by mail or electronic giving through your bank.

Together, we spread the gospel of peace and encourage cooperation locally, in the United States and globally.

Our “Change for the Better January through March is The Workshop

The Workshop has been promoting the general welfare of individuals with disabilities in Jo Daviess County since 1961. The founding group of parents sought to establish a day program, which would teach basic skills and provide activities for their children with disabilities. In a larger sense, the parents hoped to see their children develop potential and receive the respect of others in society. The Workshop has evolving into something quite remarkable. 60 years of developing, maintaining, and expanding services for people with disabilities.

(if added to your tithe check, please indicate amount of donation to ministry on MEMO)

Mission Moment Living the Beatitudes

***Singing Our Thanksgiving** *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!

Prayer of Dedication

Let these gifts be a consolation for all who are in need. Let us be more blessed by the giving than we have been blessed in receiving. And let us desire only the power of Christ’s resurrecting love. Amen.

We Go Forth in God’s Spirit

***Closing Song** *For the Healing of the Nations* by Fred Kahn © 1968, Hope Publishing Co.
1. For the healing of the nations,
Lord, we pray with one accord;
For a just and equal sharing
Of the things that earth affords.
To a life of love and action
Help us rise and pledge our word.

2. Lead us, Father, into freedom,
From despair your world release;
That redeemed from war and hatred,
We may come and go in peace.
Show us how, through care and goodness,
Fear will die and hope increase.

3. You, Creator God, have written
Your great name on humankind;
For our growing in your likeness
Bring the life of Christ to mind:
That, by our response and service,
Earth its destiny may find.

***Blessing**

Postlude *They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love* TFWS # 2223 By Peter Scholtes
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Lift Every Voice and Sing #519 UM Hymnal "Black National Anthem"
Public Domain Lyrics: James Weldon Johnson, 1900/ Music: J. Rosamond Johnson, 1905

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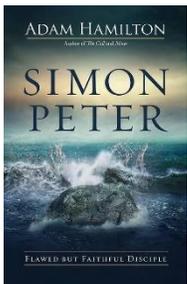
**JOIN US FOR ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE 7 pm
MARCH 2 IN-SANCTUARY & STREAMING**

**LENTEN STUDY ZOOM 6:00 conversation 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm Study
with First Presbyterian Church & Grace Episcopal Church &
Lord of Love Lutheran Church**

THURSDAY EVENINGS 6:00 pm beginning Thursday, March 3rd – 6 weeks

Simon Peter—an ordinary fisherman who heard an extraordinary call.

He left everything to follow his teacher and possessed a passion that would change the world. That's one way to describe Peter. Here's another: poor, uneducated, quick-tempered, and full of doubts and fears. Doesn't even sound like the same man. And that's the point of *Simon Peter*, a six-week adult Bible study by Adam Hamilton. Peter was just an ordinary guy who heard and followed God's extraordinary call. Discover how you, too, have special gifts, talents, and abilities that God can use to make a difference today.



Galena UMC will purchase books for those who wish to participate, However, please sign up-sheet in the sanctuary (email, text or call)

so that we may have a book for you. Some have been ordered and we can re-order for those who join us after the study has begun.

Worship with us in-person and streaming, resumed February 6th.
KN-95 masks are available if you need one. These masks may be reused once "rested" for 3 days

LEADERSHIP BOARD NEWS: During the January 24th meeting the Leadership Board discussed the news that **Tom Staver, the gentleman who has been our "financial guy" for several years, will no longer be with us beginning May 1st.** The Board discussed how we should handle this vacancy. At this time, **Academy Advisors**, the company Tom worked for, does not have staff to replace Tom. They do, however, hope to be able to hire someone but we are concerned that may not happen by May 1st. Consequently, we are asking your help to find someone who could work for us thirty (30) to forty (40) hours **per month**. The person needs to have bookkeeping skills as well as general office skills. Please call Pastor Catiana at 630-935-3312 or me, Lynn Sisler, at 563-564-2040 if you know of anyone who may be interested in working in a relaxed, friendly, supportive environment. Thank you for your help with filling this need.

Blessings, Lynn Sisler, Leadership Board Chairperson

UNITED CHURCHES ANNOUNCEMENT.....NEED..... ESL Program of Galena

The **ESL Program of Galena** is a volunteer organization offering English classes in small groups of 1 to 5 people. We are in search of additional tutors who would be interested in working where the need is the greatest which is with both beginners and students with limited English skills. At this entry level, the format is One-on-One until the student is ready to move into a small classroom environment. Teaching experience and/or some Spanish language is helpful but not necessary. Classes are held at Galena ARC and we provide tutor training and materials. This is an interesting and rewarding opportunity to help our non-English speaking residents succeed in their work and in their community. For further information, please contact Julie Specht (juliespecht@sbcglobal.net) or Maria Scott (mcscott@msn.com).



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 20 Jorja Culbertson**
- 22 Alysha Culbertson**
- 25 Nick Allen-Stewart**
- 29 Lynn Shellhorn**
- 29 Jane Newton**

DATE	LITURGIST	GREETERS
February 20	Suzanne Sproule	Marlene Niec
February 27	Dave Biegon	Pat Willy
March 6	Elisa Skeeter	Charlene Price
March 13	Lynn Sisler	Judy & Dave Biegon

SUNSHINE BOX: Items are replenished as needed by the youth and their families.

Here are some ideas you may collect for the Sunshine Box: *mouthwash, dental floss, razors, shaving cream, tooth paste, body wash, feminine products, baby wipes, body lotion face wash, granola bars, crackers, juice boxes, canned fruit, Clorox wipes, kitchen sponges, dish detergent, garbage bags, ziplock bags, glass cleaner.*



PRAYERS: Joys & Concerns

PLEASE, LET PASTOR CATIANA KNOW OF PRAYER AJUSTMENTS)

Prayers for peace and reconciliation within our country and within our world; prayers for an awareness of the senseless violence and gun obsession in our country and prayers that we take action through common sense gun legislation and open hearts. Prayers for healing from the sins of racism. May our awareness turn into healing action. Prayers for pandemic awareness.... vaccinations for the health and well-being of all and what we do or don't do effects the health of others.

Ginny Carroll has entered a new stage in her treatment of Acute Leukemia. Ginny will be in the hospital in Madison for a month so here is her address if you would like to send a card.

Ginny Carroll UW Madison Room B6/677 Madison WI. 53706

Dietrich Kroencke's brother in Germany died recently. Diete will be traveling there for the funeral and to see family. David (Dave) Biegon has two herniated disks and possibly will have a left knee replacement. Please hold Dave and Judy in prayer. **Pat Bull is recovering from knee surgery.** Please hold her in prayer; **Prayers for the family of Celia Hartman, a pre-school teacher at River Ridge, who died from COVID;**

Prayers for Judy & Dave's friend, Jerry Adams and family for the loss of son/brother to suicide AND prayers for great-grandson, Flint, whose heart murmur has returned; Please continue to hold Patricia and the family of **Ben Allen-Stewart** in your prayers; **Ruth, friend of Pat Bull, lost her husband recently; Karen Hughes' brother, Elmer John Phillips** passed away mid-November. Hold the family in prayer; **Janette Bader** continues to recover at home. Janette's address is 6481 N. Bowden Dr., Scales Mound, IL 61075; **Janette's daughter, Karen,** is healing well after her surgery. Please hold Karen in prayer; Prayers for **Julie Eggleston's grandson, Jonah and Brooke and her great grandchildren, Jude and Lizbeth; Lonna's daughter-in-law, Cathy McDermott,** is undergoing Chemo treatment. Hold her & the family in prayer; Prayers for **the Muehleip family;** Prayers for **Ingrid's health concerns** and for **Darcy's friend, Atron Regan.**

Continue prayers for Mary Turner and the Turner family; Please remember **Bev and the DeBord -Renner family; Pastor Catiana's sister, Patty Thomas,** continues with chemo; Continue prayers for **Carolyn and Tom Grey. Address: Carolyn Grey 130 W 28th Ave. Spokane, WA 99203; Please continue prayers for the Silaggi family;** Please keep **Pam McKinsey and her family** in your prayers, and prayers for **Pam's sister, Melanie;** and prayers for **Roberta Turner's great grandson, Khyson Turner.**

Hold **Charlene Price in prayer for healing** (compression-fracture) following a fall and a healing wound; prayers for **Elisa Skeeter, her family and neighbors; hold Lonna and her daughter, Joni** in prayer for health concerns; **Betty Kabara's** health; **Daniel Saben,** continued prayers; **Cheryl and Jim White;** Please hold **Sarah and Carter** in prayer as Sarah continues her process of healing; Pray for **Sarah's brother, Bill,** who has cancer. Prayers for the **Brotheridge family** as Michelle has passed away; **Larry Cook and his family; Curtis Cook, Larry's grandson; Lisa and Terry Prindle.**

Continued prayers for all Immigrants; victims of gun violence & all experiencing PTSD; all responders to tragedies in our country & around the world; prayers for the people of the United Methodist Church as we find a new expression of more fully living into the grace-filled ministry of our faith; Prayers for peaceful solutions to world issues that are too often addressed with violence; Prayers for the world and its leaders facing difficult decisions every day. May decisions be made with wisdom and care for the benefit of all.

