

Flossmoor Community Church

Remembering the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Words for Silent Meditation and Prayer before Worship

*We are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation,
God's own people, in order that we may proclaim the mighty acts
of the One who calls us out of darkness and into God's marvelous light.*

~adapted from 1 Peter 2:9~

PRELUDE

"Prelude in G Major"

Mendelssohn

"Toccata in G Major"

Smith

Vonda Hardesty, Organ

GREETINGS IN CHRIST

Pastor Fred Lyon

CENTERING FOR WORSHIP

adapted from Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

One: Darkness cannot drive out darkness: only light can do that.

All: Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can do that.

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

INTROIT

"Be Joyful In The Lord"

Moore

Chancel Choir; Michael Rugen, Director

CALL TO WORSHIP

Lois Glasgow

One: God sends us as a light to all the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon—from the prison those who sit in darkness.

All: Behold, former things have come to pass, and new things God now declares —before they spring up, God tells us of them.

One: God's mercy reveals God's might.

All: Each generation discovers how God is at work.

One: The proud are being scattered; the rich are not smiling.

All: The thrones of the haughty are tumbling down.

One: The lowly, instead are lifting their voices.

All: The hungry are being fed with all that is right and good.

One: Come and experience what God is doing.

All: God's new day of justice is here.

One: And so, let justice roll down like waters,

All: and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

adapted from Isaiah 42:6-7,9; Luke 1:46-54; Amos 5:24

*HYMN #506

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

HOUSTON

*GATHERING PRAYER

Loving God—open unto us.

Open unto us—light for our darkness.

Open unto us—courage for our fear.

Open unto us—hope for our despair.

Open unto us—peace for our turmoil.

Open unto us—joy for our sorrow.

Open unto us—strength for our weakness.

Open unto us—wisdom for our confession.

Welcome Visitors...

We pray that in the Spirit of Christ, our worship will be a blessing that inspires you to go out and serve. A special welcome to all guests — we are graced by your presence!

We invite you to talk with those around you as well as the Worship Leaders, and hope you will stop by the Information Desk in the Gathering Space (just outside the Sanctuary) where you will find a host to answer questions about opportunities for ministry and mission at FCC.

Please sign the red Friendship Pad found in the pew rack and mark if you would like to receive more information about FCC, and feel free to call the church office at (708) 798-2800.

— Pastor Fred

The Peace of the Risen Christ be with You!

Please read through the bulletin to be familiar with the flow of the service. Once in the sanctuary, everyone is invited to observe reverent silence that encourages quiet prayer, reflection, and listening to the Prelude.

— Thank You!

Your cooperation in silencing cell phones is greatly appreciated.

Please Note:

Large print bulletins and music sheets are available from an usher.

Open unto us—forgiveness for our sins.

Open unto us—love for our hates.

Open unto us—thy Self for ourselves.

Loving God, Loving God—open unto us! AMEN.

from Dr. Howard Thurman

*GRATITUDE FOR GRACE

"Now Thank We All Our God"

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done, in who his world rejoices;
who, from our mother's arms, has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP AND FAITH FAMILY MATTERS

THE COMMUNITY HEARS THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOSPEL READING

John 1:1-13

Holy Wisdom. Holy Word.

Praise to you, O Christ!

TIME WITH CHILDREN

THE PEACE

One: When the power of love overcomes the love of power,

All: the world will know peace.

Children: The peace of Christ be with you all!

All: And also with you!

adapted from Dr. King

CARING FOR THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD

PRAYERS OF THANKS AND FOR HEALING AND WHOLENESS

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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

ANTHEM

"Praise To The Lord"

Dressler

Chancel Choir; Michael Rugen, Director

MESSAGE

"Light Shining Witness"

Pastor Fred

RESPONSE TO MESSAGE

Dr. King on the "Beloved Community"

One: Love is creative and redemptive. Love builds up and unites.

All: Hate tears down and destroys.

One: The aftermath of the 'fight with fire' method is bitterness and chaos.

All: The aftermath of the love method is reconciliation and creation of the Beloved Community.

One: Physical force can repress, restrain, coerce, destroy.

All: But it cannot create and organize anything permanent—only love can do that.

John 1:1-13

In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life and the life was the light of all people.

⁵The light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not overcome it. ⁶There was a man sent from God whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light which enlightens everyone was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him who believed in his name he gave power to become children of God. ¹³who were born not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man but of God.