

Special Liturgy on June 14, 2020
That Confronts White Supremacy in Worship
and One that Commemorates
Juneteenth Independence Day/Freedom Day on June 19, 1865

Our worship today is precipitated today by a call by the Rev. Peter Jarrett-Schell and other members of a committee in the Episcopal Diocese of Washington that was formed to explore issues of racism in our diocese. Despite the fact that

Worship Resources gathered from a number of sources. Attributed where noted.
Note: The Rev. Peter Jarrett-Schell and the Rev. Linda Kaufman are clergy colleagues in the Episcopal Diocese of Washington. The prayers from Iona were part of a planned ecumenical prayer service on June 3, 2020 in Washington, DC as part of the witness for Black Lives Matter and protest against the ongoing violence against people of color in this country.

If you would like to learn more about Juneteenth, go to this website:
<https://www.juneteenth.com>.

Order of Worship

Musical Prelude

Introduction to Worship

Hymn *Down at the Cross (see next page)*

HIS BLOOD, CROSS, SUFFERING

Down at the Cross 252

Without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness. Hebrews 9:22

1. Down at the cross where my Sav - ior died, Down where forcleans - ing from
 2. I am so won - drous - ly saved from sin, Je - sus so sweet - ly a -
 3. Oh, pre - cious foun - tain that saves from sin, I am so glad I have
 4. Come to this foun - tain so rich and sweet, Cast thy poor soul at the

sin I cried, There to my heart was the blood ap - plied;
 bides with - in; There at the cross where He took me in;
 en - tered in; There Je - sus saves me and keeps me clean;
 Sav - ior's feet; Plunge in to - day and be made com - plete;

Chorus

Glo - ry to His name! Glo - ry to His name,

Glo - ry to His name: There to my heart was the

blood ap - plied; Glo - ry to His name!

WORDS: Elisha A. Hoffman
 MUSIC: John H. Stockton

GLORY TO HIS NAME
 Irregular meter

Opening Sentences

Officiant: Send out your light and your truth, that they may lead me, and bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling.

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Officiant and People together:

In this worship and when we leave this place, we pray for more than conviction. We pray, O Lord, for change. Change the easy peace we make with ourselves into discontent because of the oppression of others. Change our tendency to defend ourselves into the freedom that comes from being forgiven and empowered through your love. Change our need for disguises, excuses, and images into the ability to be honest with ourselves and open with one another. Change our inclination to judge others into a desire to serve and uplift others. And most of all, Lord, change our routine worship and work into genuine encounter with you and our better selves so that our lives will be changed for the good of all.

Absolution by Priest

Take heart: God's Spirit empowers us to move from the ways of death to the ways of new life. Our sins are forgiven. Let us forgive one another and give ourselves to one another in joyful community of justice and peace.

Officiant: Lord, open our lips.

People: **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

All: **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever Amen. Alleluia.**

Psalm 14 (NOTE: For YouTube Video Service, choir sings "Taste and See")

The fool says in his heart,

"There is no God."

They are corrupt, their deeds are vile;

there is no one who does good.

The Lord looks down from heaven
 on all mankind
 to see if there are any who understand,
 any who seek God.
 All have turned away, all have become corrupt;
 there is no one who does good,
 not even one.
 Do all these evildoers know nothing?
 They devour my people as though eating bread;
 they never call on the Lord.
 But there they are, overwhelmed with dread,
 for God is present in the company of the righteous.
 You evildoers frustrate the plans of the poor,
 but the Lord is their refuge.
 Oh, that salvation for Israel would come out of Zion!
 When the Lord restores his people,
 let Jacob rejoice and Israel be glad!

Venite *Psalm 95:1-7*

Come, let us sing to the Lord; *
 let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
 Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *
 and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, *
 and a great King above all gods.
 In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *
 and the heights of the hills are his also.
 The sea is his, for he made it, *
 and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *
 and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
 For he is our God,
 and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. *
 Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

Amos 5:14-24

Seek good and not evil, that you may live; and so the Lord, the God of hosts, will be with you, just as you have said. Hate evil and love good, and establish justice in the gate; it may be that the Lord, the God of hosts, will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

Therefore thus says the Lord, the God of hosts, the Lord: In all the squares there shall be wailing; and in all the streets they shall say, 'Alas! alas!' They shall call the farmers to mourning, and those skilled in lamentation, to wailing; in all the vineyards there shall be wailing, for I will pass through the midst of you, says the Lord.

Alas for you who desire the day of the Lord! Why do you want the day of the Lord? It is darkness, not light; as if someone fled from a lion, and was met by a bear; or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall, and was bitten by a snake. Is not the day of the Lord darkness, not light, and gloom with no brightness in it?

I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. Even though you offer me your burnt-offerings and grain-offerings, I will not accept them; and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals I will not look upon. Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your harps.

But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

11 **The Third Song of Isaiah** *Surge, illuminare* *Isaiah 60:1-3, 11a, 14c, 18-19*

Arise, shine, for your light has come, *
and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.
For behold, darkness covers the land; *
deep gloom enshrouds the peoples.
But over you the Lord will rise, *
and his glory will appear upon you.
Nations will stream to your light, *
and kings to the brightness of your dawning.
Your gates will always be open; *
by day or night they will never be shut.

They will call you, The City of the Lord, *
 The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.
 Violence will no more be heard in your land, *
 ruin or destruction within your borders.
 You will call your walls, Salvation, *
 and all your portals, Praise.
 The sun will no more be your light by day; *
 by night you will not need the brightness of the moon.
 The Lord will be your everlasting light, *
 and your God will be your glory.
 Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
 as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Matthew 22:34-46

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. ‘Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?’ He said to him, ‘ “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.” This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: “You shall love your neighbour as yourself.” On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.’

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: ‘What do you think of the Messiah?* Whose son is he?’ They said to him, ‘The son of David.’ He said to them, ‘How is it then that David by the Spirit* calls him Lord, saying, “The Lord said to my Lord, ‘Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet’ ”? If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?’ No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

Reflection:

The Rev. Dr. Sheila N. McJilton
 or the Rev. Robert Bunker

Choral Response in YouTube Service

Total Praise by Richard Smallwood

The Apostles Creed

(said in unison)

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth;

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers

A Litany for the Renunciation of White Supremacy

We pray for the Christian Church in the United States, carried in on the winds of
colonization and complicit in justifying the enslavement of Africans,
WE REPENT OF OUR SINS.

We pray for the church today, still clutching at white power and supremacy,
WE REPENT OF OUR SINS.

We pray for our country today, and we ourselves: living silently in a country
designed to favor white people and to keep people of color in poverty and
diminished health,
WE REPENT OF OUR SINS.

For the changing of this country, that it may honor and protect every human being,
WE COMMIT OUR LIVES.

For the Church, that we may use our considerable power to end the brutal
 disparities in safety, wealth, health and happiness,
WE COMMIT OUR LIVES.

That each of us, every one of us, commit to find at least one place to work for racial
 justice, today, tomorrow and all our lives.
WE COMMIT OUR LIVES.

We commend our lives to you and each other in the lifetime work to end all racial
 injustice. **AMEN.**

*(Prayers created by the Rev. Linda Kaufman and the Rev. Peter Jarrett-Schell with
 adaptations)*

Officiant: And now, let us pray in the words our Savior Christ has taught us, saying:

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 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,
 for ever and ever. Amen.**

Closing Litany

Creator of all,
Saviour of all,
Spirit in all,
One God in perfect community,
STAY WITH US NOW.

Where there is apathy,
KINDLE THE FLAME OF YOUR LOVE.

Where there is deceit,
CONFRONT EVERY LIE WITH YOUR TRUTH.

Where there is hopelessness,
REVEAL DEEP WELLS OF COMPASSION.

Where there is joy,
LET YOUR KINDLY PROTECTION BE KNOWN.

Where we hesitate to serve you,
MAKE US RESTLESS UNTIL WE CHANGE.

For yours is the kingdom. the power and the glory for ever.
AMEN.

Iona Book of Worship

Final Blessing & Dismissal

Choral Benediction

Great is thy faithfulness

NOTES ON TODAY'S LITURGY/COMMEMORATION

What is Juneteenth?

Juneteenth, also known as Juneteenth Independence Day or Freedom Day, is a holiday that commemorates the announcement of the abolition of slavery in Texas in June 1865, and more generally the emancipation of African-American slaves throughout the Confederate South. Celebrated on June 19, Juneteenth is recognized as a state holiday or special day of observance in most states. In practice, the Emancipation Proclamation only freed persons held in Confederate States who were either behind the Union lines or close enough to take advantage of the Union advance. Therefore, the news and practice of freeing enslaved people moved slowly. The date marks the moment when the news of the end of the Civil War and the complete emancipation of all slaves was announced in Galveston, TX on June 19, 1865, over two months after the surrender of General Lee at Appomattox Courthouse in Virginia. We mark this moment as a Church not only as the end of the institution of American slavery, but also in the spirit of reconciliation and new life as we journey together towards togetherness and community.

Other resources re: racism and Black Lives Matter

https://www.patheos.com/blogs/freedhearts/2020/06/11/yesmagazine/?utm_medium=social&utm_source=share_bar&utm_campaign=share_bar_facebook&fbclid=IwAR3KrifY2qadUuHRqoF_Ic-z41IQ_ZgxNZs7wzpdZ6dphs7Ib4_rALTme6g

Watch this really good Ted Talk: <https://www.baratunde.com/livingwhileblack>

Scriptures for Today's Liturgy

Psalm 14

The fool says in his heart,
 "There is no God."
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 there is no one who does good.
 The Lord looks down from heaven
 on all mankind
 to see if there are any who understand,
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All have turned away, all have become corrupt;
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 Do all these evildoers know nothing?
 They devour my people as though eating bread;
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 But there they are, overwhelmed with dread,
 for God is present in the company of the righteous.
 You evildoers frustrate the plans of the poor,
 but the Lord is their refuge.
 Oh, that salvation for Israel would come out of Zion!
 When the Lord restores his people,
 let Jacob rejoice and Israel be glad!

Amos 5:14-24

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But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

Ephesians 5:10-18

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

Matthew 22:34-46

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. 'Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?' He said to him, ' "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: "You shall love your neighbour as yourself." On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.'

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