



THE 226TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY
LIVE INTO HOPE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)

“The Spirit of the Lord
is upon me...”

Luke 4:18a

The Presbytery of Philadelphia
Service of Worship
July 27, 2024
Oxford Presbyterian Church
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Order of Worship

— We Gather Around the Word —

Prelude

Rev. Peter Ahn, Elder Gene Burke, and Rev. Timothy Wotring

*Call to Worship (from Isaiah 61:1-3)

Elder Jim Ballengee

One: The Spirit of God is upon us,
Many: because God has anointed us to proclaim good news to the poor.
One: God has sent us to bind up the brokenhearted,
Many: to proclaim freedom for the captives and release for the prisoners;
One: to proclaim the year of God's favor
Many: and the day of action of our God;
One: to comfort all who mourn
Many: and provide for those who grieve;
One: to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes,
Many: the oil of joy instead of mourning,
One: and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair.
Many: Let us raise our voices and worship God.

*Opening Prayer

One: Holy One, in Jesus Christ your Word has come to dwell among us, full of grace and truth.
All: Now anoint us with your Spirit, that our lives may proclaim the good news of your liberating love; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

We give thanks to our Commissioners and Leaders of the 226th General Assembly who have participated in our worship leadership today.

Worship Leaders and Musicians:

- Rev. Peter Ahn Pastor, Olivet Covenant Presbyterian Church Commissioner
Rev. Diane Jamison Fitch Former Pastor, First Presbyterian Church in Springfield (Flourtown) Commissioner
Rev. Cheni Khonje Pastor, First Presbyterian Church in Germantown Member, Committee on the Office of General Assembly
Elder Sharon Parker Overbrook Presbyterian Church Commissioner
Rev. Kevin Porter Stated Clerk, Presbytery of Philadelphia Committee Assistant, General Assembly Procedures Committee
Rev. Ruth Faith Santana-Grace Executive Presbyter, Presbytery of Philadelphia Co-Moderator, 225th General Assembly
Rev. Timothy Wotring Memorial Presbyterian Church of Fox Chase Commissioner Moderator, Committee on Ecumenical and Interfaith Partnerships

With Special Thanks to our additional worship leaders:

- Elder Jim Ballengee Arch Street Presbyterian Church Moderator, Presbytery of Philadelphia
Elder Gene Burke Minister of Music, Salt & Light Community Church

***Charge and Blessing** (from Numbers 6:24-26)

Rev. Ruth Faith Santana-Grace

One: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord be kind and gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor
and give you peace.

All: Alleluia!

One: Live into hope! A new day is coming.

All: Thanks be to God.

***Transition to the business of the church**

**All are invited to stand in body or spirit.*

**Today's liturgy has been taken from the various worship services
throughout the gathering of the 226th General Assembly in Salt Lake City, Utah.**



***Opening Song**

"Live Into Hope"

1 Live in - to hope of cap - tives freed, of sight re -
 2 Live in - to hope! The blind shall see with in - sight
 3 Live in - to hope of lib - er - ty, the right to
 4 Live in - to hope of cap - tives freed from chains of

gained, the end of greed. The op-pressed shall be the
 and with clar - i - ty, re - mov - ing shades of
 speak, the right to be, the right to have one's
 fear or want or greed. God now pro - claims our

first to see the year of God's own ju - bi - lee!
 pride and fear, a vi - sion of our God brought near.
 dai - ly bread, to hear God's word and thus be fed.
 full re - lease to faith and hope and joy and peace.

Invitation to Confession

Rev. Cheni Khonje

It is only by the power of God that we are able to stand against evil.
Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin:

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

**Eternal God, we confess that we have failed to do your will.
You have shown us what is good, but we remain enthralled by evil.
You have offered us abundance, but we are satisfied with wealth.
Forgive us, God of grace. By the power of your Word take away all that is false
and open our hearts to new life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

(time for silent confession)

Assurance of Grace

One: There is no greater joy in the heart of God than this moment now!
For in this moment, we call upon God to grant us new life in the center of our wounded hearts.
It is with great joy that God grants us new life and forgiveness of sin.
In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven by grace!
With great joy, we are made alive!

Many: Thanks be to God. Amen.

Passing of the Peace

One: Now stand firm in your faith,
covered by the saving grace of God
and ready to proclaim the gospel of peace.
The peace of Christ be with you all.

Many: And also with you.

One: Let us share signs of Christ's peace.

(All are invited to share signs of peace with one another.)

We are march - ing
Si - ya - ham - ba

We are march - ing, march - ing, we are march - ing, march - ing,
Si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba,

we are march - ing in the light of God.
si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.

we are march - ing in the light of, the light of God.
si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - , kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.

we are march - ing in the light of God.
si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.

We are march - ing
Si - ya - ham - ba

We are march - ing, march - ing, we are march - ing, march - ing,
Si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba,

we are march - ing in the light of God.
si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.

Additional stanzas ad lib.:
We are dancing...
We are praying...
We are singing...

(Leader continues, asking for God's courage and strength to guide us as we seek to be faithful to our calling to boldly be the church in today's world...)

— We Listen to the Word —

One: Loving God, in your mercy,
Many: **hear our prayer.**

One: Send us forth this day, O God of grace and glory, as your resurrection people, clinging to the promise of new life. We pray as we would like, in the name of Jesus Christ. Now to the one who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to God be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever,

Many: **Amen!**

***Closing Song "Siyahamba/We Are Marching in the Light of God"**

The musical score is written for voice and piano in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The lyrics are written below the vocal line. The score includes various musical notations such as eighth notes, quarter notes, and chords, along with triplets indicated by a '3' over a bracket. The lyrics are: 'We are march-ing in the light of God; we are march-ing in the light of God. Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'. We are march - ing in the light of God; Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', we are march-ing in the light of God. si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'. we are march-ing in the light of, the light of God. si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen-, kha - nyen' kwen - khos'. we are march-ing in the light of God. si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.

Prayer for Illumination

Elder Sharon Parker

Almighty and eternal God,
you sent Jesus into this world
to testify to the truth.
By the power of your Spirit
help us to listen to his voice
so that we may testify to the world
that we are your people
and you are our God;
through Jesus Christ,
our Sovereign and Savior. Amen.

Gospel Reading: Luke 4:16-20

16 When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

¹⁸ 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to let the oppressed go free,

¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.'

²⁰ And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him.

Sermon: "Anointed and Unbounded, We Thrive"

Rev. Ruth Faith Santana-Grace

— We Respond to the Word —

*Song

“Will You Come and Follow Me”



1 “Will you come and fol - low me if I but call your name?
 2 “Will you leave your-self be-hind if I but call your name?
 3 “Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call your name?
 4 “Will you love the ‘you’ you hide if I but call your name?
 5 Lord, your sum-mons ech - oes true when you but call my name.

(D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (G) (D)
 F C7 Dm Gm7 B^b F



Will you go where you don’t know and nev - er be the same?
 Will you care for cruel and kind and nev - er be the same?
 Will you set the pris - oners free and nev - er be the same?
 Will you quell the fear in - side and nev - er be the same?
 Let me turn and fol - low you and nev - er be the same.

(Em7) (G) (F#m7) (G) (Asus)(A)
 Gm7 B^b Am7 B^b Csus C



Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare should your life at - tract or scare?
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as this un - seen,
 Will you use the faith you’ve found to re - shape the world a - round,
 In your com - pa - ny I’ll go where your love and foot-steps show.

(D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (G) (D)
 F C7 Dm Gm7 B^b F



will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?
 Will you let me an - swer prayer in you and you in me?
 and ad - mit to what I mean in you and you in me?
 through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?
 Thus I’ll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

Invitation to Generosity and Service of Anointing

Rev. Diane Jamison Fitch

We invite everyone forward to place your offering in the basket at the front of the church and/or to receive an anointing at one of our stations.

For the anointing, please hold out your hand or you will be anointed on your forehead with the words, “The Spirit of the Lord is upon you. Amen.”

Today’s donations will go towards peacemaking and public witness and response.
 To donate online, please visit www.presbyphl.org/donations
 or open the camera on your phone and visit this QR code:



Prayers of the People

Rev. Kevin Porter

One: O Holy God, you are the Creator of the vast universe and the giver of life, abundant and eternal. We praise you and live our lives in response to your grace.

O Jesus Christ, Savior of the world, you came to dwell among us, full of grace and truth. We lift your name on high and yearn to follow you as the disciples you have called.

O Spirit of the Living God, you inspire, guide, and sustain us in the life of faith. We celebrate your movement in us, in the church, and in the world, and seek to use the gifts you have given us in the nurture of all God’s children and to God’s glory.

One: Loving God, in your mercy,
 Many: **hear our prayer.**

One: Precious Savior, still our refuge, we give you thanks today for the church of Jesus Christ, acknowledging together that it is Christ alone who is head of this church we love and serve. We know ourselves to be part of the one body of Christ and individually members of it. We know that our live together as the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is fraught with our humanity and all too often reflects our own brokenness, falling short of the church you call us to be.

Basking your forgiveness for our sin, individual and corporate, we give you thanks for this church and humbly bring the church before the throne of grace, knowing that, before this is our church, it is your church—past, present, and future.

One: Loving God, in your mercy,
 Many: **hear our prayer.**

(Leader continues, offering prayers of peace and healing for our nation and our world...)

One: Loving God, in your mercy,
 Many: **hear our prayer.**