

Worship Service - *Fostering Peace One Friend at a Time*

Pentecost 2, Year C,

12th June, 2022

Ezekiel 36:26 NRSV / Isaiah 35:1-2, 5-7 NRSV

Prelude

Opening Music Mike Stern and Kathy Howell

Welcome Guests / Announcements

Pass the Peace

Call to Worship

In the name of God, who created us, who holds us and the whole world in his hands

In the name of the Son who came into the world, who reconciles us with God.

In the name of the Holy Spirit who fills us with eternal life, who links us with all Christians and incites us to peace, we come together to offer our thanks and praise.

Invocation

Outcast God, born into poverty in an occupied land, driven from your land as your family fled violence, living alongside the marginalized and the oppressed. dying between criminals to the jeers of the crowd,

Open our eyes, that we who seek to follow you may recognize your face in the faces of those who are enslaved.

Open our ears, that we who seek to hear your word may recognize your love in the stories which are often drowned out.

Open our hearts, that we who seek your way of life may be bold in witnessing to your longing for justice and peace. Amen

Scripture Reading Ezekiel 36:26 NRSV Kathy Edmark

A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.

A Time of Prayer

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

My brothers and sisters,

through this common prayer, let us pray to our Lord Jesus Christ, not only for ourselves and our own needs, but for all people, young and old, near and far.

For the holy Church of God, that we follow in the footsteps of the Prince of Peace and serve with compassion the last, the least, the lost, and the littlest ones, let us pray, **Lord, make us instruments of your peace.**

For all the peoples of the world, especially those wounded by war and those who bear the brunt of poverty, that we heed the prophets' call to beat swords into plowshares and work to transform our world from one of weapons and war to one of peace and plenty, let us pray,

For our nation and our leaders, that we seek to unite and not divide, to place a priority on the poor and not the powerful, grant us wisdom, compassion, and commitment to justice and peace, let us pray,

For all our brothers and sisters in need, especially the children and families suffering from gun violence and the violence of poverty, let us pray,

For ourselves and our community, that we join with people of all faiths across our nation to make our nation and world safe for children, let us pray, **Lord, make us instruments of your peace.**

God of love, who shelters us like a mother and welcomes us like a father, hear the prayers of your Church, and grant us today what we ask of you in faith.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Scripture Reading Isaiah 35:1-2, 5-7 NRSV Roger Edmark

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
like the crocus

it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon
shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory
of the Lord, the majesty of our God.

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and
the ears of the deaf unstopped;

then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For
waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert;

the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the
haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

Fostering Peace One Friend at a Time Carol and Mike Stern

Sharing Experiences and Stories Roger and Kathy Edmark

Volunteer Recognition JoAnn and Larry Sims

Closing Music *On the Road to Freedom* Mike and Kathy

Benediction

Father, Son and Holy Spirit
Send us out to live lives that glorify you
Help us to be people of peace
Empower us to recognize your call
In our families
In our communities
In our workplaces and schools
In our churches and in our world. Amen.