



Living by Faith, Known by Love, A Voice of Hope



First Church in Windsor, UCC
Livestream Worship

August 23, 10 a.m.

Social Justice in the Bible Sunday, Part VII

Prelude

Richard Thornburg, violin
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Welcome

Introit

Lift Every Voice and Sing
Written by James Weldon Johnson
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**Lift every voice and sing,
till earth and heaven ring,
ring with the harmony of liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise,
high as the listening skies,
let it resound loud as the rolling sea.**

Call to Worship

One: Gracious God, you know each of us in our fullness.
Two: Our hearts yearn to know you better, Lord.
One: We find you even still, when we can be in service of others.
Two: For you taught us to love God by loving neighbor.
One: In an instant, a stranger may become kin to us,
Two: For you were born among us and live within us still.
One: We will seek you all of our days,
Two: And know you until the end.

Hymn

Canticle of the Turning
Words by Rory Cooney
Music: Irish traditional, arr. by Rory Cooney
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**My soul cries out with a joyful shout
that the God of my heart is great,
and my spirit sings of the wondrous things
that you bring to the ones who wait.**

**You fixed your sight on your servant's plight,
and my weakness you did not spurn.
So from east to west shall my name be blest.
Could the world be about to turn?**

**Refrain: My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,
and the world is about to turn.**

**Though I am small, my God, my all,
you work great things in me,
and your mercy will last from the depths of the past
to the end of the age to be.**

**Your very name puts the proud to shame,
and to those who would for you yearn,
you will show your might, put the strong to flight,
for the world is about to turn.**

Refrain

**From the halls of power to the fortress tower,
not a stone will be left on stone.
Let the king beware for your justice tears
ev'ry tyrant from his throne.**

**The hungry poor shall weep no more
for the food they can never earn;
there are tables spread, ev'ry mouth be fed,
for the world is about to turn.**

Refrain

Prayer of Invocation

Gentle God, whose strength is known through gentle love and soft rebukes, grant us this day the eyes and ears to know you in others. Instill in our hearts the compassion to care, the will to imagine, and the courage to love. As we seek to worship your son Jesus Christ, let us be witness to your love in the world, and let us be witness to his life that still moves in us all. Let us, your servants of love and justice, be living proof of your message through all that we do. Amen.

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

Children's Moment

Scripture

Matthew 25:34 – 40

“Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you

gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.’

“Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’

“The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’

Sermon

Pastor Peter

“Godly Reflections”

Hymn

When I Needed a Neighbor

Words and music by Sydney Bertram Carter

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**When I needed a neighbor were you there, were you there?
When I needed a neighbor were you there?**

**Refrain: And the creed and the color and the name won't matter,
were you there?**

**I was hungry and thirsty, were you there, were you there?
I was hungry and thirsty, were you there?**

Refrain

**I was cold, I was naked, were you there, were you there?
I was cold, I was naked, were you there?**

Refrain

**When I needed a shelter were you there, were you there?
When I needed a shelter were you there?**

Refrain

**When I needed a healer were you there, were you there?
When I needed a healer were you there?**

Refrain

**Where ever you travel I'll be there, I'll be there.
Wherever you travel I'll be there.**

**And the creed and the color and the name won't matter,
I'll be there.**

Morning Prayer

Silent Prayer
Prayers of the People

Prayer Response

Just a Closer Walk with Thee
Anonymous
Public Domain

**Just a closer walk with thee,
Grant it, Jesus, this my plea,
Daily walking close to thee:
Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.**

Announcements

Benediction

Postlude

Star of the County Down
Irish traditional, arranged by Jane Frogley and Richard Thornburg
