

Order of Worship
Sunday, May 2, 2021

“Why I Love and Support LGBTQ Persons”

*(*Denotes inclusion in posted video, unmarked items will be recorded live and included, music videos will be shown in worship and included in posted playlist)*

*** Opening Video**

Prelude

Dr. Olga Aynvarg

Easter tide Welcome

Opening Song (Video) “You Are Mine” - Walkers to Heaven

Opening to the Spirit's Instruction

Scripture Reading 1

Psalm 139 (alt)

Liturgists

- O Lord, you have searched me and known me.
2 You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from far away.
3 You search out my path and my lying down,
and are acquainted with all my ways.
4 Even before a word is on my tongue,
O Lord, you know it completely.
5 You hem me in, behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.
6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain it.
7 Where can I go from your spirit?
Or where can I flee from your presence?
8 If I ascend to heaven, you are there;
if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.
9 If I take the wings of the morning
and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,
10 even there your hand shall lead me,
and your right hand shall hold me fast.
11 If I say, “Surely the darkness shall cover me,
and the light around me become night,”
12 even the darkness is not dark to you;
the night is as bright as the day,
for darkness is as light to you.

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- ¹³ For it was you who formed my inward parts;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
¹⁴ I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.
Wonderful are your works;
that I know very well.
¹⁵ My frame was not hidden from you,
when I was being made in secret,
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.
¹⁶ Your eyes beheld my unformed substance.
In your book were written
all the days that were formed for me,
when none of them as yet existed.
¹⁷ How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God!
How vast is the sum of them!
¹⁸ I try to count them – they are more than the sand;
I come to the end – I am still with you.
- ¹⁹ O that you would destroy any wickedness in me, O God,
and that bloodthirstiness would depart from me—
²⁰ any malicious speech and thoughts,
any turning my thoughts against you for evil!
²¹ Do I not choose against those who choose against you, O Lord?
And do I not loathe those things that are against you?
²² I choose against them in order to choose your ways;
I count myself in your company.
²³ Search me, O God, and know my heart;
test me and know my thoughts.
²⁴ See if there is any wicked way in me,
and lead me in the way everlasting.

*May God's Spirit speak to us today through these words of Scripture, the music we
sing and hear, and the message shared this day.*

Anthem (Video) "Song of Hope" JCUMC Virtual Choir

Sermon Series: Parting Thoughts "Why I Love and Support LGBTQ Persons"
Pastor Craig

Song (Video) "Love Has Broken Down the Wall" - Golden Ears United Church

***Prayers for Our World and One Another**

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Let us enter now into a time of prayer for one another and for our world. We will do what is called a Bidding Prayer. I will open, and then I will bid your prayers based around various categories. During the silence after each category is bid, I invite you to add your own prayers, either aloud or in silence. I will then close with a prayer, then the Lord's Prayer. Let us be in prayer.

Let us pray now for all who are ill, in hospital or at home, especially those affected by cancer or COVID-19.

Let us pray now for all medical and emergency services personnel who are responding to the best of their abilities with the resources that they have at hand.

Let us pray now for all those who are hungry or food insecure, and for all community and religious efforts to provide food and shelter.

Let us pray for all who are still displaced from their homes, and those who have no home.

Let us pray for the leaders of nations around the world, not only regarding their response to this pandemic, but also that they may do everything possible to assure the health and welfare of their citizens.

Let us pray for all school and college governing boards, administrations and staff, all faculty, and students as they work to offer appropriate and equitable education in a manner that protects the health and safety of all persons.

Let us pray for our friends, family, and neighbors for their health and well-being.

Let us also express our thanks to God for the expressions of love and caring that we have witnessed in our families, communities, and world.

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Let us express our gratitude for life and the myriad things that gladden our hearts.

These prayers, spoken aloud or in silence, we lift into the universal embrace of the One who is Love, and we make them in the name of the One who showed us what Love looks like in the flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord, and we now join our voices in the prayer he taught us, saying:

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 forever.

Amen

Prayer Response (Video):
Choir

"Kyrie"

JCUMC Virtual

We Offer Ourselves in Commitment and Service

Acknowledgement of Gifts * Stewardship Video

Song of Dedication (Video)
2026

"Halle, Halle, Halleluja"

FWS

Celebration of Communion

Leader: The Lord be with you.

>People: And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

>We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

>It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Almighty God, we bless you for creation and all that you have made, for your gracious covenant with a people transformed by your holiness, and for your steadfast love in sending the prophets to call us to repent and to walk in your ways.

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>You faithfully guide all who seek your paths and your ways.

Your own Son is our Way, our Truth, and our Life.

>Help us to walk each day as your beloved children, and to live as followers of your Son.

With thanksgiving we remember your love for the world in sending your Son to live and die as one of us.

>You put your Spirit upon him. He proclaimed release to the captives, healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners

Before his death on the cross he took bread and said, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup and said, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood."

>By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection, you gave birth to your church and made all things new.

By your Holy Spirit make this bread and wine to be for us the body and blood of Christ.

>Fill us with your love, uniting us with Christ, and with one another.

Through Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church, all honor and glory are yours, almighty God, now and forever.

All: Amen.

Music for Reflection

Dr. Olga Aynvarg

Sending Forth

Pastor

*** Closing Video**