

# Chapel Service of Justice and Prayer

*in Response to the Racism and White Supremacy in Charlottesville*

**August 16, 2017**



Gathering Music

Paul Huh

\* Call to Worship

Luke Choi

One

The Lord supports the cause of the needy,

*Ps. 140:12*

**Many**

**and gives justice to those who are poor.**

Will God not grant justice

*Luke 18:7*

to those who cry day and night?

**God will not delay in helping them.**

God has given us the ministry of reconciliation.

*2 Cor. 5:18–20*

**Through Jesus Christ let us be reconciled to God.**

**All**

**Let us worship God!**

\* Opening Song

“O For a World”

GTG, #372

Opening Words

Chip Hardwick

Call to Confession  
Prayer of Confession

Luke Choi

**All**                    **Gracious God,**  
**our sins are too heavy to carry,**  
**too real to hide,**  
**and too deep to undo.**  
**Forgive what our lips tremble to name,**  
**What our hearts can no longer bear,**  
**And what has become for us**  
**a consuming fire of judgment.**

**Set us free from a past that we cannot change;**  
**Open to us a future in which we can be changed;**  
**and grant us grace**  
**to grow more and more in your likeness and image;**  
**through Jesus Christ, the light of the world.**

Assurance of Pardon

\* What We Believe

Kathy Francis

**God has created the peoples of the earth to be one universal family. In his reconciling love, God overcomes the barriers between sisters and brothers and breaks down every form of discrimination based on racial or ethnic difference, real or imaginary. The church is called to bring all people to receive and uphold one another as persons in all relationships of life: in employment, housing, education, leisure, marriage, family, church, and the exercise of political rights. Therefore, the church labors for the abolition of all racial discrimination and ministers to those injured by it. Congregations, individuals, or groups of Christians who exclude, dominate, or patronize others, however subtly, resist the Spirit of God and bring contempt on the faith which they profess.**

—The Confession of 1967

Prayer for Illumination

Tamron Keith

Readings

*Isaiah 43:8-21*

*Philippians 1:3-8, 1:27-2:16*

Michelle Bartel

Sermon

Carry Out Your Salvation

\* Song of Response

Come! Live in the Light!

GTG, #749

\* What We Believe

Stephanie Vasquez

**The PC(USA) affirms that racism violates God's purpose for humanity and is contrary to the gospel of Jesus Christ. Therefore, the PC(USA) recognizes that racism is a sin. The PC(USA) is committed to spiritually confronting the idolatry and ideology of White supremacy and White**

privilege. The PC(USA) confesses its complicity in the creation and maintenance of racist structures and systems in all parts of our nation's life, including the church itself.

The PC(USA) rejoices in its witness of resistance to racism provided by past and current PC(USA) leaders and individuals and echoed by congregations and governing bodies. The PC(USA) recognizes that it has not spoken boldly enough, nor acted courageously or creatively enough in response to racism.

In Jesus Christ, God frees us to love and teaches us, through the empowering presence of the Holy Spirit, how to live as a family. We are led by the Holy Spirit to participate in transforming personal lives, dismantling institutional racism, healing racial prejudice and hatred, and building "The Beloved Community" for all of God's children.

— Facing Racism: A Vision of the Beloved Community

Song of Preparation "Come Now, O Prince of Peace"

GTG, #103

Invitation to the Table

Jose Luis Casal and Emily Odom

The Words of Institution

The Great Prayer and the Prayers of the People

Communion of the People

Prayer After Communion

\* What We Believe

Sean Chow

We believe in one God, Father Son and Holy Spirit,  
who gathers, protects and nourishes the Church  
from the beginning of the world to the end.

**The Church is holy; the Church is universal;  
it is the fellowship of God's children,  
called together from the whole of humanity  
to proclaim God's wonderful deeds.**

We believe that the reconciling work of Christ  
gives birth to a uniting Church,  
because Church unity is a gift from God  
and a goal we need to strive for.

**The unity of the Church must become visible  
so that the people around us can see  
how separation and hatred are overcome in Christ.**

We believe that genuine faith in Jesus Christ  
is the only condition for membership in this Christian church.

**We praise God that race, class, gender, or culture  
does not determine who belongs to this Church.**

We believe that God has entrusted to the Church  
the message of reconciliation;  
and that the Church is called  
to proclaim and embody this reconciliation;  
to be peacemakers;  
and to believe and to witness that God conquers all powers  
of sin and death, of hate, bitterness and enmity,  
through his life-giving Word and Spirit.

**We praise God that the gospel does not separate people  
on the basis of race, gender, class, or culture,  
but is the power of reconciliation in Christ.**

We believe that God wants to bring about true justice  
and lasting peace on earth;  
we believe that God is, in a special sense,  
the God of the suffering, the poor and the downtrodden.

**We praise God who gives justice to the oppressed  
and bread to the hungry;  
who sets captives free and makes the blind to see;  
who protects strangers, orphans and widows  
and obstructs the plans of the wicked.**

We believe that the Church belongs to God  
and that it should stand where God stands:  
against injustice and with those who are wronged

**We commit ourselves to reject all forms of injustice  
in ourselves and amongst us;  
and to struggle against all forms of injustice  
and every teaching that allows injustices to flourish.**

We are called to confess and to do all this  
in obedience to Jesus Christ, our only Lord,  
even if authorities or laws oppose this,  
even if punishment and suffering may be the consequence.

**Jesus is Lord! We will follow Him!  
To the one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory for ever and ever.**

—The Confession of Belhar

\* Closing Song           “O God of Every Nation”

GTG, #756

\* Benediction

Tony De La Rosa

Passing of the Peace

\* Please rise in body or in spirit.