



**Pilgrim Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
January 15, 2023
Martin Luther King, Jr. Weekend**

**MUSIC IN TODAY'S SERVICE LICENSED FOR
STREAMING/PODCAST by OneLicense**

- PRELUDE: Sortie – George Blake
- OPENING HYMN: When Morning Gilds the Skies
- RESPONSE HYMN: Precious Lord Lord, Take My Hand*
- OFFERTORY: Ave Verum Corpus – W. Mozart
- CLOSING HYMN: Lord I Want To Be a Christian*
- POSTLUDE: Prelude in F minor – JS Bach

**From The New Century Hymnal, Copyright 1995. The Pilgrim Press Permission is granted for this one time use.*

Today's service will be recorded.



**Welcome to Pilgrim Congregational Church,
United Church of Christ
A Welcoming, Open and Affirming Congregation**

Mission Statement

*A welcoming home to all
spiritual seekers
Making a difference in our world,
By fusing our Christian faith with
everyday life and
Serving God by serving others.*

Statement of Welcome

*We honor the Biblical call to love one another as God
first loved us. We welcome into the full life and
ministry of the church all people of any race,
nationality, religious background, educational
background, ethnicity, age, gender, sexual orientation,
marital status, economic status, and physical, mental,
and emotional abilities.*

Children at Pilgrim

Children are an important part of our worshipping community. We try to make them feel at home! All are welcome. Professional childcare for infants and toddlers is available in Pilgrim Hall from 10:15 to the end of the service.

Visual and Hearing Aids

Hearing devices may be picked up from the table in the narthex.

Large Print bulletins and
Sermons texts are available.

Pilgrim Congregational Church, UCC
January 15, 2023

PRELUDE

Sortie — George Blake

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Reebee Girash and Sarah Jane Fuller

PASSING OF THE PEACE

ONE: Peace be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

ONE: Let us share the peace of Christ with one another.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God has made us to be One Body with many members.

All: United and uniting. This is our calling.

One: God calls us to share our diverse gifts activated by the one and same Spirit.

All: United and uniting. This is our redemption.

One: God longs for us to be united in love and to manifest the Spirit in our different ways.

All: United and uniting. This is our worship.

Let us gather in this hour to offer praise and worship to our Holy God, who challenges us and calls us to create the Beloved Community.

35

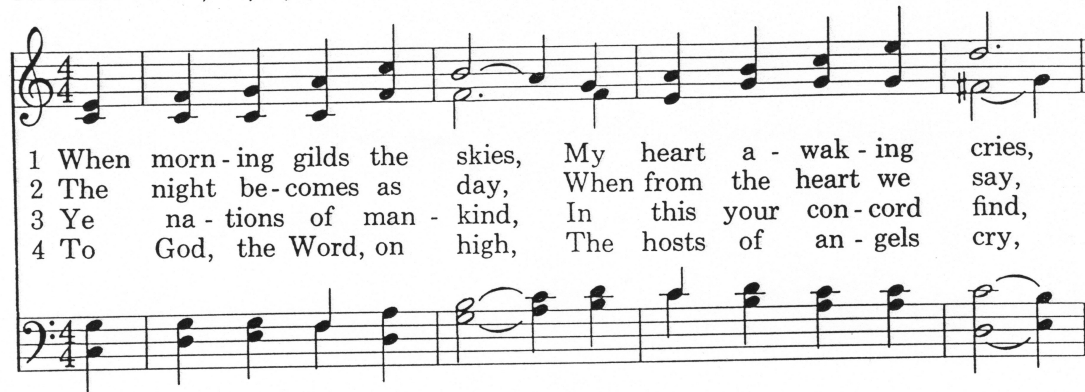
When Morning Gilds the Skies

German: anon., 1828

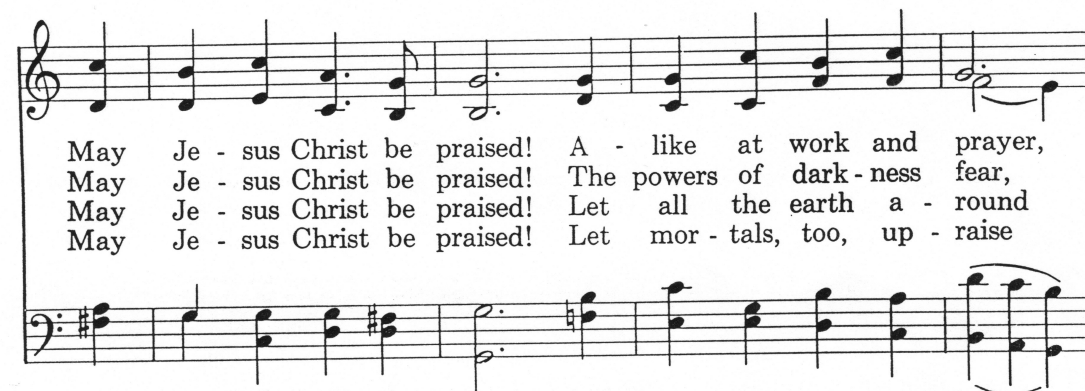
Tr. Edward Caswall, 1814-1878, alt.

LAUDES DOMINI 6.6.6.6.6.6.

Joseph Barnby, 1838-1896



1 When morn - ing gilds the skies, My heart a - wak - ing cries,
 2 The night be - comes as day, When from the heart we say,
 3 Ye na - tions of man - kind, In this your con - cord find,
 4 To God, the Word, on high, The hosts of an - gels cry,



May Je - sus Christ be praised! A - like at work and prayer,
 May Je - sus Christ be praised! The powers of dark - ness fear,
 May Je - sus Christ be praised! Let all the earth a - round
 May Je - sus Christ be praised! Let mor - tals, too, up - raise



To Je - sus I re - pair; May Je - sus Christ be praised!
 When this sweet chant they hear, May Je - sus Christ be praised!
 Ring joy - ous with the sound, May Je - sus Christ be praised!
 Their voice in hymns of praise, May Je - sus Christ be praised! A-men.

1 When morning gilds the skies, My hearts awaking cries,
May Jesus Christ be praised! Alike at work and prayer,
To Jesus I repair; May Jesus Christ be praised!

2 The night becomes as day, When from the heart we say,
May Jesus Christ be praised! The powers of darkness fear,
When this sweet chant they hear, May Jesus Christ be praised!

3 Ye nations of mankind, In this your concord find,
May Jesus Christ be praised! Let all the earth around
Ring joyous with the sound, May Jesus Christ be praised!

4 To God, the Word, on high, The hosts of angels cry,
May Jesus Christ be praised! Let mortals too, upraise
Their voice in hymns of praise, May Jesus Christ be praised!

OPENING PRAYER

O God, all people are your Beloved, across races, nationalities, religions, sexual orientations and all the ways we are distinctive from one another.

We are all manifestations of your image.

We are bound together in an inescapable network of mutuality and tied to a single garment of destiny.

You call us into your unending work of justice, peace and love.

Let us know your presence among us now:

Let us delight in our diversity that offers glimpses of the mosaic of your beauty.

Strengthen us with your steadfast love and transform our despairing fatigue into hope-filled action.

Under the shadow of your wings in this hour may we find rest and strength, renewal and hope.

We ask this, inspired by the example of your disciple, Martin Luther King, Jr., and in Jesus' name. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 3:13-17

¹³Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴John would have prevented him, saying, 'I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?' ¹⁵But Jesus answered him, 'Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.' Then he consented. ¹⁶And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. ¹⁷And a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.'

Children and Youth are invited to participate in a Sunday School Service Project at this time. Please gather at the rear of the Sanctuary with Sarah Jane Fuller.

SERMON

*RESPONSE HYMN

Precious Lord, Take My Hand – Black Hymnal 472
(next page)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Reebee Girash

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Reebee Girash

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Rev. Reebee Girash

OFFERTORY

Ave Verum Corpus – W. Mozart

*DOXOLOGY

Red Hymnal 515

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen**

or

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen**

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

472

Thomas A. Dorsey, 1932; alt.



1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
2 When my way grows drear, pre-cious Lord, lin - ger near,
3 When the shad - ows ap - pear and the night draws near,



I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;
when my life is al - most gone,
and the day is past and gone,



Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light:
Hear me cry, hear my call, hold my hand, lest I fall:
At the riv - er I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand:



Refrain
Take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home.

1 Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;
Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light:
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

2 When my way grows drear, precious Lord, linger near,
when my life is almost gone,
Hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand, lest I fall:
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

3 When the shadows appear and the night draws near,
and the day is past and gone,
At the river I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand:
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

(With quotes from *Remaining Awake through a Great Revolution* by Martin Luther King, Jr.)

“All life is interrelated” – Praise!

“We are all caught in an inescapable network of mutuality” – Praise!

“We are tied in a single garment of destiny” – Praise!

Use our gifts to empower us to lean into this reality and this calling, more and more fully, until we become part of the salvation we are dreaming of.

May it be so. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

Lord I Want To Be a Christian – Black Hymnal 454
(next page)

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Prelude in F minor – JS Bach

SOURCE NOTES

The Call to Worship, Opening Prayer, and Benediction are from Creating the Beloved Community: Service Prayers for the Second Sunday after Epiphany, Martin Luther King, Jr., Weekend was written by the Rev. Dr. Cari Jackson, Founder and Director of the Center for Spiritual Light, New York City . The Prayer of Dedication is by Dr. Sharon R. Fennema. The liturgy incorporates phrases from the speeches of Dr. King.

A special Thank You to Doug Johnston, our Zoom host and Mary Mackie and Marjorie Kelland for hosting on social time.

Lord, I Want To Be a Christian

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*African-American spiritual**Deut. 6:5-6; 10:12-16*

1 Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart, in my heart;
 2 Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart, in my heart,
 3 Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart, in my heart;
 4 Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart, in my heart;

Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart.

Refrain

In my heart, in my heart, in my heart,
 In my heart, in my heart, in my heart,

Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart.

1 Lord, I want to be a Christian
 in my heart, in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.
 In my heart, in my heart,
 Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

2 Lord, I want to be more loving
 in my heart, in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.
 In my heart, in my heart,
 Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.

3 Lord, I want to be more holy
 in my heart, in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.
 In my heart, in my heart,
 Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.

4 Lord, I want to be like Jesus
 in my heart, in my heart.
 Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.
 In my heart, in my heart,
 Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.

Many of the enslaved of antebellum America did not want to become Christians because they did not want to adopt the religion of their captors. But this spiritual attests that the Christian faith was an internal strength and aim for many.

Tune: I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN
 8.6.8.3. with refrain
African-American spiritual
 Arr. Joyce Finch Johnson, 1992

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Director of Educational Ministries: sarah.fuller@pilgrimcongregational.org

www.PilgrimCongregational.org

Sunday Worship 10:30 am



MOVING BEYOND THE CONVERSATION: HOW FEAR DIVIDES US AND WHAT WE CAN DO ABOUT IT

Scan to register*



MLK Day Community Conversation on Race

10-12pm - Registration Required*

This year we honor Dr King's legacy by exploring his thoughts on the nature of fear and the power of hope, faith and love in action to transform individuals and communities. This interactive learning experience will be lead by Mia Roberts, Fresh Power, LLC and Joyce Swagerty, Fresh Horse, LLC.

**Join us in-person at Grace Chapel to celebrate
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY**

Monday January 16, 2023

59 Worthen Rd • Lexington

Opening Ceremonies - 9:00am.

**Community Conversation on Race followed by
SNAP chorus. Unity Walk - Gathering by 12:15pm**

Explore and sign up for MLK Day of Service Programs below:

<https://www.lexingtonmlk.org/>

Brought to you by The Town of Lexington, Human Rights Committee and the MLK Day of Service