

Communion Service Liturgy for January 17, 2021

MLK Sunday | Human Relations Sunday
Community of Faith United Methodist Church

CALL TO WORSHIP

All voices: We enter with praise and awe,

One voice: Because the God of all has drawn us together.

All voices: In our worship, we draw nearer to God in our connectedness to one another.

One voice: Because the many members of the one body have shown that love is a more excellent way of life.

All voices: How wonderful it is to be in worship one more time.

THE READING

John 1:43-51

⁴³ The next day Jesus wanted to go into Galilee, and he found Philip. Jesus said to him, "Follow me." ⁴⁴ Philip was from Bethsaida, the hometown of Andrew and Peter.

⁴⁵ Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law and the Prophets: Jesus, Joseph's son, from Nazareth."

⁴⁶ Nathanael responded, "Can anything from Nazareth be good?"

Philip said, "Come and see."

⁴⁷ Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him and said about him, "Here is a genuine Israelite in whom there is no deceit."

⁴⁸ Nathanael asked him, "How do you know me?"

Jesus answered, "Before Philip called you, I saw you under the fig tree."

⁴⁹ Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are God's Son. You are the king of Israel."

⁵⁰ Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these! ⁵¹ I assure you that you will see heaven open and God's angels going up to heaven and down to earth on the Human One."

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, how many times have we valued only those who look and sound like ourselves? How often have we laughed at jokes that demean others? How often have we smiled outwardly and judged inwardly?

Lord, we are afraid of your Cup of Justice. We do not trust difference And, when we are truly honest, we know we do not trust you as we should. Forgive us, we pray. Help us have the courage to drink deeply of this cup you offer today. Help us raise it by the strength of your love for us and for all your people. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

For by the blood of Christ we are set free, that is, our sins are forgiven. How great is the grace of God, which he gave to us in such large measure. (*Ephesians 1:7-8, GNB*)

A BRIEF GREAT THANKSGIVING

LORD'S PRAYER

THE INVITATION TO RECEIVE

BLESSING & DISMISSAL

Go now. Listen for the voice of the Lord
and follow wherever it leads.
Do not be dominated by anything.
Allow no room within yourselves for deceit,
but offer yourselves as a temple for the Holy Spirit.

And may God be with you and speak through you;
May Christ Jesus be one with you and raise you to life;
And may the Holy Spirit dwell within you and make you holy.

We go in peace to love and serve the Lord,
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Acknowledgements: A Call to Worship Inspired by Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians – Rev. Lindsey Baynham, Virginia.

