

## WORSHIP OUTLINE FOR OLDER ADULT SUNDAY: MAY 6, 2018

By Rev. June Begany

The texts from the Common Lectionary for this 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter are: Acts 10:44-48; Psalm 98; I John 5:1-6 and John 15:9-17. Some alternative texts are suggested here which focus on the theme of wisdom.

Prayer before worship: O God help us to change the things we can change, to let go of the things we cannot change and the wisdom to know the difference. Amen

Prelude

Announcements

\*Call to Worship

One: Lord, you have been our dwelling place for all generations.

**All: You have created the world and all that is in it.**

One: We celebrate your never-failing love which you showered upon our ancestors, upon us, and will continue to shower on generations yet to come.

**All: We give thanks for your promises to hear and be with us, as you have always done.**

One: We celebrate the lives of all who have gone before, who have lived with these promises in their lives, who have had their faith strengthened.

**All: We give thanks for the wisdom and the gifts those who have gone before us have shared with us.**

**Unison: Let us join our voices in praising God.**

\*Opening Hymn     *God of Compassion in Mercy Befriend Us*     #261 PH, #436 G to G

Prayer of Confession (unison)

**Merciful God, we come this day seeking your forgiveness. We know we have often not loved others as we love ourselves. We are aware that while we seek to be like Joshua and choose to follow you, we often forget your way or follow our own thoughts and desires. We forget your commands and the cost of the mercy and forgiveness you extend to us. Forgive us. Restore us to the joy of your salvation. Send your Spirit to lead us in the way of your wisdom and grace. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

Time of Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

One: God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son, so that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have eternal life.

**All: Thanks be to God for this forgiveness and new life.**

\*Sung Response                    *Amazing Grace*, (verse 1)  
Amazing grace how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me.  
I once was lost but now am found, was blind but now I see.

\*Passing the Peace

Time with young disciples

Suggestion: Teach the children (and adults) the song about the wise men who built his house upon the rock using hand motions. The children like the ending where the house crashes down, which ends with a big clap.

Prayer for Illumination (unison)

**O Lord, may your word continue to be a light to our paths and a guide for our lives. Amen.**

First Scripture                Job 28, or Proverbs 1:1-7 or 1:20-33

Anthem

Second Reading        Matthew 7:24-28

Sermon:        Focus is on wisdom, being wise in God's eyes. Bits of wisdom from the congregation could be shared especially regarding our relationship with God.

\* Hymn                    *My Hope is Built on Nothing Less*                    #379 PH, #353 G to G

\*Affirmation of Faith

(adapted from the Belhar Confession)

**We believe:**

**That God has revealed himself as the One who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people;**

**That God, in a world full of injustice and enmity, is in a special way the God of the destitute, the poor and the wronged;**

**That God calls the church to follow him in this; for God brings justice to the oppressed and gives bread to the hungry;**

**That God frees the prisoner and restores sight to the blind;**

**That God supports the downtrodden, protects the stranger, helps the orphans and widows and blocks the path of the ungodly;**

**That for God pure and undefiled religion is to visit the orphans and the widows in their suffering;**

**That God wishes to teach the church to do what is good and to seek the right;**

**That the church must therefore stand by people in any form of suffering and need... so that justice may roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream;**

**Unison: Therefore, we reject any ideology which would legitimate forms of injustice and any doctrine which is unwilling to resist such an ideology in the name of the gospel.**

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer (traditional)

Offertory

\*Doxology

\*Prayer of Thanksgiving (unison)

**Generous God, you have blest us in more ways than we can know, just as you have blessed your people in the past. We bring these gifts in response to your love. We offer our lives as your disciples. May all be used in your service. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

\*Communion Hymn     *Lord We Have Come at Your Own Invitation*  
  #516 PH, #513 G to G

    Invitation

    Response

    Prayer over the elements, giving thanks for great biblical figures and possibly adding the names of the saints from the local congregation

    Distribution of the elements

Prayer after communion (unison)

**Lord Jesus, for the fruit of the earth and the fruit of the vine which you have provided, we give thanks. For this time to renew our commitment to you and to hear your words of welcome we are grateful. Send us into the world to serve others as our response to your love. Amen.**

\*Closing Hymn     *God of Grace and God of Glory*                     #420 PH, #307 G to G

\*Blessing

\* Postlude

*Rev. June Begany served as an Associate Pastor for 24 years at a downtown Cleveland church, as an interim pastor for 2 years and is now retired. She is also a licensed social worker, has taught history in the Cleveland school district, and is certified to administer the Myers Briggs Type Indicator. She completed her capstone project for certification in the Older Adult Ministry program in 2014. She has recently served as secretary to the POAMN Executive Committee.*