

FRIDAY OPENING WORSHIP

Radical Inclusion & Racial Justice

PRELUDE *Nearer My God, to Thee* UMH 528

Priscilla Ehlert & Amanda Beker

GREETING *Based on Langston Hughes' Poem "I've Known Rivers"*

Rev. Mary Council-Austin

I've known rivers:

I've known rivers ancient as the world and older than the flow
of human blood in human veins.

My soul has grown deep like the rivers.

I bathed in the Euphrates when dawns were young.

I built my hut near the Congo, and it lulled me to sleep.

I looked upon the Nile and raised the pyramids above it.

I've known rivers. . . . We have known rivers. . . .

We have known rivers:

Niger, Amazon, Volga, Rhine, Yukon, Danube, Euphrates, Ganges, Ob, Huang,
Yangzte, Rio Grande, Mekong, Tigris.

We have known Wisconsin rivers. . . .

The Apple, Rock, Baraboo, Eagle, Flambeau, Iron, Kickapoo, Little Menominee River,

The Wolf, The Lower and Upper Fox, The Chippewa, St Croix, Milwaukee. . . .

to name a few. . . .

We have known rivers: Ancient, dusky rivers.

Our souls have grown deep like the rivers.

Peoples of the Wisconsin Conference of the United Methodist Church, we have travelled the rivers...

The Spirit is moving. We are gathered by the river to hear again the word of God, to speak of our dreams
for vital ministry across the plains and cities, communities large and small...

We have gathered by the river...asking God to breathe on us yet again.

Blow Holy Spirit. Blow across the rivers. . . .

Blow across our Lives. Blow in this place. Blow....in our lives. . . .

Come Holy Spirit. Come!

CALL TO WORSHIP

Jaye Zingsheim

When the world hates,

We are called to love.

When the world alienates or discriminates,

We are called to include everyone.

When the world does evil,

We are called to do good.

We will not be conformed to the world's pattern,

but transformed by God's call

to what is good, and acceptable, and perfect.

So, let us worship!

Amen.¹

¹"Call to Worship" by Rev. Mulongo Mpyoyo

OPENING PRAYER

Rev. Mulongo Mpoyo

Eternal God, through Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit you gave to your apostles and the whole church many excellent gifts. We give thanks for your perfect faithfulness. You never forget, never fail, and never take back the promise of your abiding presence. You have promised that, when your people gather in your name, you are there. Fix our eyes on you. Let our ears be attentive to your voice. Restore to us the joy of our salvation. As we offer one heart of holy worship, may we grow in grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. To you be the glory both now and for all eternity. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, we pray. Amen.²

MEDITATIONAL RESPONSE *I Want Jesus to Walk with Me* UMH 521

Paul Zach

LITANY OF HOPE FOR THE NATIONS *Based on Revelation 22:1-5*

Rev. Sherwin Newton Parmer

On either side of the river, the tree of life flourishes with fruit abundant,
and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.

Come, Healer of Nations, bring relief to all who cry out

Alone and hungry. Afraid and numb. Alienated and oppressed.

Turn hearts and minds of ruling powers, cause hearts of stone to bloom with flowers.

On either side of the river, the tree of life flourishes with fruit abundant,
and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.

Come, Healer of Nations, bring relief to all who cry out

Desolate and lost. Degraded and poor. Downtrodden and weak.

Touch and heal the blood-stained soil, restore the heartache of burden and toil.

On either side of the river, the tree of life flourishes with fruit abundant,
and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.

Come, Healer of Nations, bring relief to all who cry out

Exploited and weary. Threadbare and worn. Powerless and silent.

Cause hearts to leap and hands to reach, expand the dream for justice and peace.

On either side of the river, the tree of life flourishes with fruit abundant,
and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.

Amen³

CALL FOR THE OFFERING *Latino/a Pentecost Emergence*

Rev. Jane Sommers

Wisconsin Annual Conference 2022 celebrates the strategic work of Hispanic/Latino Pentecost Emergence ministries in promoting leadership development, new ministry plants, and revitalization of existing congregations. Conference offerings will provide continuing support for the important work of developing Latino lay and clergy leaders for engagement in vital ministries across the Wisconsin Conference, including Deep Waters Summer Camp for youth. All are invited to place your offerings in the collection trays on the table or go to the Wisconsin Annual Conference 2022 website "Videos and Materials" page "Offerings" link to make an offering to Deep Water Summer Camp. Thanks to all for your generous support.

CELEBRATION OF MINISTRY *Deep Waters Camp*

²"Opening Prayer" by Rev. Mulongo Mpoyo

³Adaptation of "The Holy Ground of Healing" based on Revelation 22:1-5 by Rev. Jane Sommers

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of Vision and Vocation, you inspire your people with creative imagination. Your provision flows through the hearts of all who extend the reach of your word and wonder in places of need. May these gifts be a sign of your presence and power in the midst of this generation of new emerging ministries. And may your hospitable joyous welcome inspire and enliven the nurturing of your beloved children. Take these gifts, we pray, and consecrate this outpouring to your good purposes. May your name be ever praised! Amen

SPECIAL MUSIC *Nous t'Élevons Seigneur*

Shalom International Praise Band

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL RENEWAL *based on Psalm 139*

Chris Chiyong Oh

Source of Knowledge and Wisdom,

You search and know our ancient depths

You form our intricate parts

You weave the seasons of our very life.

Source of Inspiration and Discernment,

You raise up teachers and prophets

You give us peacemakers and guides

You invite our world to hope.

Source of Mercy and Shalom,

We acknowledge all who lead and guide

We yield our spirits to your perfect will

We offer our life to your excellent way.

Amen⁴

SCRIPTURE *Romans 12:1-2*

Jaye Zingsheim

MEDITATIONAL RESPONSE *Thy Word is a Lamp (Chorus) 2xs*

Lomira Trinity UMC Band

SERMON *Welcoming Beloved Community*

Bishop Hee-Soo Jung & Rev. Grace Cajiuat

AFFIRMATION OF COVENANT & COMMITMENT

Rev. Mulongo Mpoyo

God of Everlasting Covenant, you desire action that makes our community, nation, and world more just. Inspire us always to help the children, the poor, and those most oppressed. We offer our lives to you as a sign of your covenant and our commitment. We will speak for those who cannot speak. We will seek the rights of the destitute. We will stand together for righteousness. We will defend the cause of the poor and needy. God be with us. Amen.⁵

HYMN *Grace Alone* TFWS 2162

Lomira Trinity UMC Band

BENEDICTION

Bishop Hee Soo Jung

POSTLUDE *The Summons* TFWS 2130

Priscilla Ehlert & Amanda Beker

⁴ "Prayer for Spiritual Renewal" based on Psalm 139 by Rev. Jane Sommers

⁵ "Prayer of Covenant & Commitment" based on Isaiah 58:9b-14 by Rev. Jane Sommers



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks to all who generously offered a heart of spiritual worship!

WORSHIP DESIGN

Rev. Mulongo Mpoyo & Rev. Jane Sommers
Liturgist & Musician Coordination by Rev. Mulongo Mpoyo
Video Montages & Compilation by Rev. Jane Sommers

PRODUCTION CREDITS

Videography & Video Editing by Mwanza Mpoyo
PPT Design & Editing by Rev. Jane Sommers & Rev. Mulongo Mpoyo
Video Editing by Rev. Jane Sommers
Sanctuary Space & Audio-Visual Recording Setup Lomira Trinity UMC
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