



The Congregational Church of Needham

An open and affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ

February 5, 2017 10:00 a.m.
Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany
First Sunday in Black History Month
Service of Holy Communion

Langston Hughes, "The Negro Speaks of Rivers"

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 heard the singing of the Mississippi when Abe Lincoln went down to New Orleans, and I've seen its muddy bosom turn all golden in the sunset.
I've known rivers:
Ancient, dusky rivers.
My soul has grown deep like the rivers.

PRELUDE

Ave Verum Corpus
W. A. Mozart (1759 - 1791)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGREGATIONAL GREETING

OPENING PRAYER

God of compassion and justice,
the worship you choose for us is to loose the bonds of injustice,
to let the oppressed go free,
to share bread with the hungry,
to shelter the homeless poor.

Then your light shall break forth like the dawn
and your healing shall spring up quickly.

So in praise and wonder, we come to worship you
not just with our words
but with our hearts and our lives.

Glory and honour be to you, O God,
Creator of a new heaven and a new earth;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN #407 (Black, New Century Hymnal)**

How Firm a Foundation

INSTALLATION OF DEACONS, BOARD MEMBERS, LEADERS AND OFFICERS

Presentation

Covenant

Questions of Leaders and Officers

Having prayerfully considered the duties and responsibilities of your ministry, are you prepared to serve with the help of God in Christ's name?

I am, with the help of God.

Do you promise to exercise your ministry diligently and faithfully, showing forth the love of Christ?

I do, relying on God's grace.

Question For The Congregation

Members of this household of faith, you have heard the promises of our brothers and sisters who have answered God's call to service. Let us affirm our intention to live in covenant with them. Will those who are able please rise and witness to the commitment we now make?

We gather in celebration of the joy that is ours to be partners with you in the service of Jesus Christ. We promise to honor your leadership and assist you that together we may be a faithful church of Jesus Christ.

Laying On The Hands Of Our New Leaders

ANTHEM

Ain't a That Good News
arr. Mark Patterson (b. 1969)
Joyful Noise and Hallelujah Choirs

SELECTION OF READINGS

Isaiah 58: 1-12

Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob and Rachel and Leah their sins. Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments, they delight to draw near to God.

“Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?” Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers. Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will

you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Holy One? Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of God shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and God will answer; you shall cry for help, and she will say, Here I am. If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. God will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

Matthew 5: 13-20

Jesus continued, “You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot. “You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father and Mother in heaven.

“Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the realm of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the realm of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the realm of heaven.

HYMN (*See Insert*)

Keep Your Eyes On The Prize, Hold On

SERMON

“Keep Your Eyes On The Prize, Part 1”

Jim Mitulski

HYMN (*See Insert*)
On

Refrain of Keep Your Eyes On The Prize, Hold

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

In each of our pews today is a black friendship book which we encourage you to fill out and pass to the person next to you during the offering. If you have been with us before, just put down your name, but if you are new today, please let us know who you are. Thanks!

Offertory Anthem

Deep Peace
Douglas Wagner (b. 1960)

***Doxology**

**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.**

Prayer of Dedication

CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION

Everyone without exception is welcome to receive the bread and grape juice.

Invitation

Communion Prayer and Lord's Prayer (please use whatever version is familiar to you)

Words of Institution

Prayer of Consecration

Sharing of the Elements

Communion Music

We're Gonna Sit at the Welcome Table

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 2/2 time signature. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 80. The lyrics are arranged in three systems, each with three numbered parts. The first system includes the lyrics: '1. We're gon-na sit at the wel-come ta -', '2. All kinds of peo-ple a-round that ta -', and '3. No fan-cy style at the wel-come ta -'. The second system continues with 'ble.', 'ble.', and 'ble.' followed by the lyrics: 'We're gon-na sit at the wel-come', 'All kinds of peo-ple a-round that', and 'No fan-cy style at the wel-come'. The third system includes 'ta - ble one of these days, hal-le-lu-jah! We're gon-na', 'ta - ble one of these days, hal-le-lu-jah! All kinds of', and 'ta - ble one of these days, hal-le-lu-jah! No fan-cy'. The fourth system includes 'sit at the wel-come ta - ble, gon-na', 'peo-ple a-round that ta - ble, gon-na', and 'style at the wel-come ta - ble, gon-na'. The fifth system includes 'sit at the wel-come ta-ble one of these days.', 'sit at the wel-come ta-ble one of these days.', and 'sit at the wel-come ta-ble one of these days.' with first, second, and third endings marked.

♩ = 80

1. We're gon - na sit at the wel - come ta -
2. All kinds of peo - ple a - round that ta -
3. No fan - cy style at the wel - come ta -

ble. We're gon - na sit at the wel - come
ble. All kinds of peo - ple a - round that
ble. No fan - cy style at the wel - come

ta - ble one of these days, hal - le - lu - jah! We're gon - na
ta - ble one of these days, hal - le - lu - jah! All kinds of
ta - ble one of these days, hal - le - lu - jah! No fan - cy

sit at the wel - come ta - ble, gon - na
peo - ple a - round that ta - ble, gon - na
style at the wel - come ta - ble, gon - na

1. - 2. 3.
sit at the wel - come ta - ble one of these days.
sit at the wel - come ta - ble one of these days.
sit at the wel - come ta - ble one of these days.

For Every One Born

E A2

1 For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,
 2 For wom - an and man, a place at the ta - ble,
 3 For young and for old, a place at the ta - ble,
 4 For just and un - just, a place at the ta - ble,
 5 For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,

E A2 B sus4 B

for ev - ery - one born, clean wa - ter and bread,
 re - vis - ing the roles, de - cid - ing the share,
 a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
 a - bus - er, a - bused, with need to for - give,
 to live with - out fear, and sim - ply to be,

F#m7 E/G# A2 B sus4

a shel - ter, a space, a safe place for grow - ing,
 with wis - dom and grace di - vid - ing the pow - er,
 the hands of a child in hands that are wrin - kled,
 in an - ger, in hurt, a mind - set of mer - cy,
 to work, to speak out, to wit - ness and wor - ship,

E B sus4

for ev - ery - one born, a star o - ver -
 for wom - an and man, a sys - tem that's
 for young and for old, the right to be -
 for just and un - just, a new way to
 for ev - ery - one born, the right to be

JUSTICE

Refrain

E Bsus4 B E E/G#

head.
fair.
long.
live.
free.

And God will de-light when we are cre-

A2 Bsus4 E E/G# A2 Bsus4 B

a-tors of jus-tice and joy, com-pas-sion and peace: yes,

C#m7 E/B A2

God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice,

Bsus4 B E Bsus4 B

last time
E

jus-tice and joy.

Communion Prayer

Love Is Not Concerned
Alice Walker

love is not concerned
with whom you pray
or where you slept
the night you ran away
from home
love is concerned
that the beating of your heart
should kill no one

***CLOSING HYMN #473 (*Black, New Century Hymnal*)**

Blessed Assurance

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Recessional Marche Romaine
Charles Gounod (1818 - 1893)

**You are invited to stand*

Worship Assistant: Carol Oberle
Deacons: Joanne Seiden, Sunu Yeh
Communion Servers: Dibby Moder
Prayer Leaders: Joanne Seiden
Altar Guild: Jane Clayton-Matthews, Jean Veigas
Ushers: Jim Leighton, Phil Gotwals, Rich Weitzel, Robert Kennedy
Flowers: Joanne Seiden
Flower Delivery: Amy Kennedy

The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Joy and Dick Unsworth on their birthdays, February 7th and 1st, from the Slosser family.

Covenant

We strive to be a joyful, welcoming Christian Community.

We seek to be faithful in a world torn by suffering, injustice, oppression, and war.

We are inspired by God, Christ's Ministry, and the examples of other faithful people.

We join together in worship and song, fellowship, study, and mission to embrace the risks and challenges of continuing Christ's ministry.

We struggle to live out our faith in the world by furthering justice and peace, witnessing to the truth, and proclaiming God's love and mercy for all people.

Open and Affirming Statement

As a covenant community we are committed to the belief that all people are created equal before God.

In affirmation of the inclusive love of Christ Jesus, we welcome persons of any race, gender, age, sexual orientation, ability and economic circumstance to full participation in our community life and ministry.

We strive to reflect these beliefs in the language and content of our worship and in our lives together.

(This statement adopted in 1998, reflects the welcome of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender people and their friends and families.)

The Board is responsible for the overall administrative life of the church including buildings, finances, personnel and the overall health of the church.

Moderator - Jackie Allen
Clerk - Keith McClelland

Term Ends 2018

Michael Normile
Blair Wentworth
Sharmon Priaux

Term Ends 2019

Jim Conroy
Diane Rees
Kristin Mollerus

Term Ends 2020

Howard Sesso
Kenneth Allen
Barbra Morton
Amanda Angel

The Deacons are responsible for the spiritual life and well-being of the church.

Term Ends 2018

Lee McNally
Charlie Baker
Claudia Darmofal

Susan Lively
Kirby Salerno

Term Ends 2019

Rick Devereux
Dibby Moder
Scott Stewart
Carol Miller
Jean Veigas

Term Ends 2020

Kevin Blume
Paul Brown
Jane Clayton– Matthews
Sue Cotton
Lucy Slosser

**Attendance
and Offerings**

1/29/2017
Worship Attendance
134 People

*1/29/2017 Collection
\$6,585

Please contact the church
office 781-444-2510
or
office@needhamucc.org
to find out how you can
give electronically.

* *Collection & Pledge
amount does not
include additional
pledges received
electronically.*

Rev. Jim Mitulski's Office Hours

Please contact the church office to schedule an appointment during his office hours of Tuesday & Wednesday 2-6pm; Thursday 2-5pm

*If these times do not work for you please contact the office for alternate availability.

Staff

Interim Senior Minister
The Rev. Jim Mitulski
RevJim@needhamucc.org
781-444-2510, ext. 106

Associate Minister
The Rev. Heike Werder
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Director of Children & Youth Ministries
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Music Director
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musicdirector@needhamucc.org

Organist/Accompanist
Sangyoung Kim

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Development Consultant
Irma Bauer-Levesque

Handyman
Bill Donovan

Housekeeper
Sanira Alchaar

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The Rev. Dr. Paul Clayton, Pastor Emeritus

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUPER BOWL SUBS— IT'S NOT TOO LATE!

If you weren't able to place your order in church, don't worry! You can still purchase delicious subs and chili after **church today, Sunday, February 5!** We will have additional veggie, turkey, ham, and meat trio subs and bowls of turkey chili available for \$8 per item. All funds raised go towards our senior high youth ministry's summer mission trip - thank you for supporting our students!

Flower Team Opportunity

The Flower Team is looking for a special someone to take responsibility for our altar flowers for a month during the year. This person will coordinate the donation of these arrangements. In addition we decorate the church for Easter and Christmas - the most festive seasons of the year. This is a great time of fun and fellowship. If you think you might be interested contact Debbie Wentworth at bmwfac@comcast.net to find out more.

Worship Design Meeting

Would you like to be part of a design team for lent worship services? **February 16 come meet with Rev. Jim at 6:30pm** in the Chapel to add input to these upcoming services.

Information Session - Guatemala Partnership Opportunities/Needs, Sunday, Feb. 12, 11:30 am, Linden Hall

Please join us to learn about opportunities for participating in the work of the partnership. Your engagement is needed, in ways large and small, to sustain this long-running outreach effort that has touched the lives of many of us and our children. Whether you'd like to go on a delegation, help with a fundraiser, or simply paste labels on our partner-family envelopes, we can accommodate your interest and your time. So please join us to learn more about the partnership.

On Sunday February 12, at 3 p.m., the powerful 90-minute climate change film, *Time to Choose*, will be shown at **First Parish in Needham, 23 Dedham Ave.** The film will be followed by a discussion of concrete steps to address climate change and a chance to browse informational tables from local groups. This free event is sponsored by First Parish in Needham and Green Needham Collaborative, as well as Metro West environmental groups, houses of worship and local League of Women Voters.

Guatemala Delegation Send-Off, Tuesday, February 14, 7:00 pm, Johnson's home (505 Great Plain Ave).

Please join us for this brief send-off of the February delegation. Come hear about the delegation's planned activities in Guatemala City, travelers' hopes, and well-wishes by family and friends. Delegation travelers include Co-leaders Brenda Metzler and Fred Moder, partnership founders Clark and Kay Taylor, Joan Evans, Theresa Garrett, Angela Kyn, Jerry Durbin, Lauren Valle, optometrist Scott Pike and wife Joene, and two travelers from Texas and Colorado. We ask that you keep us in your thoughts and prayers that this will be meaningful and safe trip for all and a blessing to our partnership that is entering its 30th year.

February Diversity Book Group with First Baptist Church and First Unitarian Universalists: February 28 at First Baptist Church **MARCH: Book 1** - a graphic novel by Congressman John Lewis (suggested by John Kirk.) **MARCH Book 3** just won the National Book Award https://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/kidspost/graphic-novel-march-book-3-wins-national-book-award/2016/11/17/eeb497aa-ac7b-11e6-8b45-f8e493f06fcd_story.html?utm_term=.cb8289d0f36c. You have plenty of time to read it even if you have never read a graphic novel. Be adventurous! Take a risk!

Deacons' Worship Sub-Committee is developing a 40-day devotional for all of us to use during Lent (March 1 - April 14). We are asking for volunteers to provide a devotional for one day during Lent. This devotional should include the following elements: a reading (scripture or other meaningful passage); a brief reflection on the reading; a brief prayer for the day. There will be a calendar in the Narthex on Sunday for you to sign up for a day in Lent. You could select any random day that is unclaimed, or a day that perhaps is meaningful to you based on a particular experience. Since Lent begins on March 1, we will need all materials no later than February 19. Lee McNally will be consolidating the devotions, so please send your material to her: leemcnally@verizon.net. Please also include the date your devotional is for.

The Community Dinner

The Community Dinner team thanks everyone for their contributions of re-usable containers. They have been much appreciated by our guests. Please continue to bring your surplus containers in- they can be left in a bag labelled "Community Dinner Take-Out" or something like that, and left in the kitchen. Please make sure they are SUPER CLEAN (like run through the dishwasher) and intact. If you have questions about anything to do with the Community Dinners, please don't hesitate to call or email Diana Conroy (781-449-3350) (conroyjd@rcn.com)

INTRESTED IN CHIMING but unsure if it's for you?

Right after church today you can try chiming and see how easy and fun it is. Some chimers will be there to also answer any

questions you may have. There's no obligation, just an invitation. Look for our FRIENDLY CHIMERS sign/location in the corridor leading to Fellowship Hall.

Immigration Justice Task Force - an Invitation

The Immigration Justice Task Force began as a subcommittee of our Outreach Committee. It continues to be led by Clark Taylor and now includes members from other faith communities, as well as representatives from the Needham Human Rights Committee and the League of Women Voters. Now, more than ever, it is important to pay attention to immigration issues and to consider ways that we can help promote justice. **We meet every second Monday of the month in the church library at 7:15 pm.** Come see what it's all about and feel free to share your ideas and concerns at our next meeting, **Monday, February 13th.**

Chancel Choir

Please come sing with us! Chancel choir rehearsals for the month of January and February will be at 8:30 on Sunday morning in the sanctuary. We would love to have you be part of our choir!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Communion Workshop: Open to students in grades 2 and above

Would your student like to learn more about Communion? Why is it bread and grape juice? Why do the ministers say what they do before we eat it? Find out at the Communion Workshop!

The workshop will be held in April and we will decide the day based on those who are interested - if your child would like to participate, send Maddie an email at youth@needhamucc.org. We will take a doodle poll to find out which day/s will work best for those interested!

Winter Open House Sunday, February 12

Immediately following worship, parents are invited to join their students in the church school classrooms for a tour. We will also have registration forms available and the ability to sign up to teach and shepherd classes. Students will be invited to decorate a cookie as their parents navigate the open house with different decorations in each classroom.

SPRING VBS

Sign up for Spring VBS: Kids of the Kingdom!

Our storybook-themed VBS will offer kids the chance to be brave princesses, adventurous knights, and to explore the continuing story of God's people through arts and crafts, theater, singing, and games. Vacation Bible School is open to students in Pre-K (toilet trained) through grade 5.

Tuesday, April 18 - Friday, April 21

9:30 AM - Noon; Lunch Bunch extended program, pick up by 1:00 PM

Register by Sunday, March 12, 2017.

Scholarships are available. If cost would prevent your student from participating in VBS, please reach out to Maddie at youth@needhamucc.org.

VBS: Volunteers needed!

Volunteers are needed to help with all aspects of VBS - checking students in and out, preparing snacks, setting up classrooms, teaching, and shepherding. Whether you like cooking, games, crafts, or are up for anything, your help is needed! 2 adult volunteers (18+) are needed for each day of VBS. Students in grades 6 through 8 can participate in VBS as volunteer counselors in training. Students in grades 9 through 12 can sign up as counselors and are paid \$25/day.

Please contact Maddie at youth@needhamucc.org if you are interested in participating as an adult volunteer, volunteer CIT, or High School counselor.

YOUTH MINISTRIES ANNOUNCEMENTS

Junior High Youth Group meets most Sundays from 5:00 - 6:30 PM.

Senior High Youth Group will move their meetings back to Sunday night beginning on February 12. Please join us from 6:30 - 8:00 PM

Junior and Senior High Youth Groups schedule for February:

Sunday, February 5: DURING & AFTER WORSHIP -- Sub sales!

Sunday, February 12: regular youth group programming

Sunday, February 19: winter break, no group scheduled. If you would like to gather for hot cocoa after church, let Maddie know and we will meet somewhere in town at 11:45!

Sunday, February 26: regular youth group programming

Our **Senior High Snow Day** has been moved to Saturday, March 18 to accommodate more students -- if this means you can go, email Maddie at youth@NeedhamUCC.org by March 1!

Our **Junior High Winter Retreat** will take us to Providence, RI on March 3-5. If you would like to join in on this opportunity for fellowship and faith exploration, there is still space! Email Maddie ASAP to register!

Youth Band has an additional opportunity to come together this year in March! If you are a junior or senior high school student who would like to participate, youth band will practice during the last 15 minutes of JR High and the first 15 minutes of SR high youth group on Sunday, February 12 & 26, Sunday, March 12, and an additional practice will be scheduled on Saturday, March 25, time TBD. Reach out to Maddie if you are interested in playing/singing!

CALENDAR February 5—February 26

Sunday, February 5th	8:30 am 10:00 am 11:30 am	Parent Confirmation Meeting, <i>Library</i> Choir Practice, <i>Sanctuary</i> Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Friendly Chimers, <i>Fellowship Hall</i> Guatemala Partnership Meeting, <i>Library</i> Super Bowl Subs Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i>
Monday, February 6th	9:00 am 7:00 pm	Cancer Support Group, <i>1154 Reception Room</i> Parent Confirmation Meeting, <i>Library</i>
Tuesday, February 7th	10:00 am 6:00 pm	Prayer Shawl Meeting, <i>1180 GPA</i> Community Dinner, <i>Linden Hall</i>
Wednesday, February 8th	7:00 pm 7:15 pm	Deacon's Meeting, <i>1180 GPA</i> EMT Meeting, <i>Library</i>
Thursday, February 9th	7:00 pm	CE Meeting, <i>1180 GPA</i>
Saturday, February 11th	8:30 am 9:00 am	Deacon's and Board Retreat, <i>1180 GPA</i> Senior High Snow Day
Sunday, February 12th	8:30 am 10:00 am 11:30 am 11:45 am 5:00 pm 6:30 pm	Mentor Confirmation Meeting, <i>Library</i> Choir Practice, <i>Sanctuary</i> Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Winter Open House, <i>Church Classrooms</i> Guatemala Information Meeting, <i>Linden Hall</i> Friendly Chimers Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i> Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i> Parent Open House Youth Committee Meeting Junior High Youth Group Senior High Youth Group
Monday, February 13th	9:00 am 7:00 pm 7:15 pm	Cancer Support Group, <i>1154 Reception Room</i> Finance Team Meeting, <i>1180 GPA</i> Immigration Justice Task Force, <i>1154 Library</i>
Tuesday, February 14th	7:00 pm	Board Meeting, <i>1180 GPA</i> Guatemala Send Off, <i>505 Great Plain Ave.</i>
Thursday, February 16th	6:00 pm 6:30 pm	Holy Homework, <i>Youth Room</i> Worship Design Meeting, <i>Chapel</i>
Sunday, February 19th	8:15 am 8:30 am 10:00 am 11:30 am	Men's Breakfast, <i>Library</i> Chancel Choir Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i> Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Adult Education—Selma, <i>Linden Hall</i> Friendly Chimers Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i> Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i>
Monday, February 20th		Office Closed— President's Day
Sunday, February 26th	8:30 am 10:00 am 11:30 am 5:00 pm 6:30 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i> Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Mindfulness with Sue Findlay-Walter Friendly Chimers Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i> Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i> Junior High Youth Group Senior High Youth Group

HYMN FOR BLACK HISTORY MONTH

KEEP YOUR EYES ON THE PRIZE, HOLD ON

Music: traditional ("Keep Your Hand on the Plow"); Words: adapted by Alice Wine and civil rights workers

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This song has been through every chapter of the movement. The words "keep your eyes on the prize" (replacing the more common "keep your hand on the plow") came from Alice Wine, one of the first proud products of voter education schools on Johns Island, S.C., in 1956. The song had meaning for the sit-in students who were the first to be "bound in jail" for long periods of time. It went with the Freedom Riders to Jackson and into Parchman, and then on to Albany and all of the many other areas of struggle.

Slow

The musical score is written on five staves of music. The first staff begins with the tempo marking 'Slow' and the chord 'Am'. The lyrics are: 'Paul and Si - las, bound in jail, — had no'. The second staff has chords 'E7' and 'Am' and lyrics: 'mon - ey for to go their bail, — Keep your'. The third staff has chords 'E7', 'Am G', 'Am', and 'CHORUS' and lyrics: 'eyes on the prize, — hold — on, hold on. Hold —'. The fourth staff has chords 'Em' and 'Am' and lyrics: 'on, — Hold — on, — Keep your —'. The fifth staff has chords 'E7', 'Am G', and 'Am' and lyrics: 'eyes on — the prize, — Hold — on, hold on.' The score uses a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (Bb). The lyrics are placed below the notes, with some words connected by hyphens to indicate syllables across notes. There are also some long horizontal lines under notes, likely indicating a sustained sound or a specific performance technique.

Paul and Si - las, bound in jail, — had no

mon - ey for to go their bail, — Keep your

eyes on the prize, — hold — on, hold on. Hold —

on, — Hold — on, — Keep your —

eyes on — the prize, — Hold — on, hold on.

Paul and Silas begin to shout, the jail door
opened and they walked on out.
Keep your eyes on the prize, hold on.

Freedom's name is mighty sweet, soon one day
we're gonna meet.

Got my hand on the Gospel plow, I wouldn't
take nothing for my journey now.

The only chain that a man can stand, is that
chain of hand in hand.

The only thing we did wrong, stayed in the
wilderness a day too long.

But the one thing we did right, was the day we
started to fight.

We're gonna board that big Greyhound, carryin'
love from town to town.

We're gonna ride for civil rights, we're gonna
ride both black and white.

We've met jail and violence too, but God's love
has seen us through.

Haven't been to heaven but I've been told,
streets up there are paved with gold.



Alice Wine, credited with the words "Keep your eyes on the prize."