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**Scripture: Philippians 2:1-11      Sermon: “Christ be in My Eyes”**

*This worship experience is for in-home use and is designed to give you and your family a more Spirit-filled worship experience as we continue to be confined to our homes. Feel free to divide the readings and prayers up if you are blessed to have others worshipping with you. When you come to hymns, special music and the sermon click on the YouTube link provided and your computer, tablet or Smart TV should take you directly to the video. May God bless you as you enter worship! Grace & peace, Pastor Jon.*

**Notes for today’s service:**

*With all the conversation surrounding racism in our country, the focus for our service today will be, “Putting on the eyes of Christ.”*

***You may notice that I am using some of the same prayers and reading as last week. I am purposely doing this, using repetition to create space to allow these words to speak deeply to our hearts and souls. Hoping we might be able to put on the eyes of Christ today, as we continue to talk about systemic racism.***

**Lighting of the Christ Candle**

**Light a candle to symbolize the presence of Christ in your midst and to signal that you are entering into a sacred time of worship.**

**Prelude Pat Trostel “Christ be in My Mind”**

**<https://youtu.be/oHNFsWSBLJQ>**

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## Call to Worship

We come in Spirit,  
as a community of faith in God's subversive world.

We come to celebrate  
that no darkness can extinguish light,  
to remember  
that love will always be more powerful than death,  
and to trust that  
peace will always be stronger than violence.

We come in Spirit,  
as people of faith in the light of God's world.

Welcome to this time of worship. i

## Opening Hymn

**Traditional: "Come, let us all unite to sing"**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WM67XFmS6hE>

**Contemporary: "Open the Eyes of my Heart"**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wutmEjdbedE>

## Prayer of Repentance

God,

We confess to you today of the long, long history of deep-systemic oppression  
in our country. Not necessarily one that we have caused, but one that we

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continue to give power to. Help us today to be honest: to name it, confess it, and seek forgiveness. We seek for our hearts to be changed so that, as a country and community, we can change and heal.

God, we come to you and admit that over 400 years of oppression of people of color has woven itself into the very fabric of this country and this community. For all the ways that we have blatantly or complacently been a part of the sin of systemic racism: O, God, we ask your forgiveness.

God, we cry out to you because we know that we cannot do this alone; we need your help. None of us can change our hearts. That can only happen if we open ourselves up to your spirit. We ask you to come in and touch our hearts with your love, with your forgiveness, with your mercy, and with your grace.

God, we ask that you would pour your spirit of love into each of us this day. May that spirit guide us as we do the hard work to nurture that love in our hearts and our souls. May that same spirit open our ears to be able to honestly hear the cries of your people, in the same way that you hear the cries of your people.

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God, we turn to you today and ask that you would impart the spirit of Christ on us as we pray;

Christ

be in my mind and in my thinking.

Christ

be in my eyes and everything I see.

Christ

be in my ears and in my hearing.

Christ

be in my mouth, and every word I speak.

Christ

be in my heart and in my loving.

Christ

be in my life each moment that I live. "Amen!" ii

## Praises

- Finally visiting family!
- Beautiful summer days and nights.

## Prayers

- Les & Joyce Karns (Judy Welborn's friend needs prayers for healing, calm and reassurance)
- Don & Carolyn Barnes (Sylvia Warner's friends; prayers for peace and healing)

- Rich & Sarah (Sylvia Warner's friends; prayers for peace and healing)
- The Family of George Floyd.
- For all the families who have lost loved ones to Covid 19.
- For our political leaders, that they may work together to put forth policies to end systemic injustice in our country.
- For our community, that we may receive the grace to see every human being as a child of God.
- For our Church, that we would be led by the Spirit of Christ, as we stand against the systems within our society which oppress people of color.
- All essential workers, caregivers, doctors, nurses and healthcare employees
- Logan Owens and Care Team (Nancy Batdorf's Brother-In-Law)
- Ben Powell (Mary Ann Cornell's grandson; surgery went well; prayers for healing and restoration of sight)
- Mary Ann Cornell
- Ruth Frost (passing of her father)
- Jah Batdorf
- Natalie Bair (Ear surgery went very well!)
- Dolly Hurley
- Lilly (friend of Sylvia Warner's niece)
- Carol Jackson
- Sharon Schwanitz

**Prayer Hymn**

**St Theresa's Prayer**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eqVbLQh-lT0>

**Community Prayer**

*O Great Love, thank you for living and loving in us and through us. May all that we do flow from our deep connection with you and all beings. Help us become a*

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*community that vulnerably shares each other's burdens and the weight of glory. Listen to our hearts' longings for the healing of our world. [Please add your own intentions.] . . . Knowing you are hearing us better than we are speaking, we offer these prayers in all the holy names of God, Amen iii*

### **Invitation to the Offering**

This is how the earth praises God:

giving thanks for God's abundance!

The meadows clothe themselves with flocks  
and the valleys deck themselves  
with shimmering fields of grain,  
sharing their bounty with the rest of creation.

We, too, are to worship God  
by being abundant and fruitful with our lives,  
offering up our yields as if they were songs of joyful praise.

Let us worship God with our gifts. iv

### **Offerings can be mail directly to:**

**Jenny Hausfeld**  
**320 Green Oak Dr.**  
**Troy Ohio, 45373**

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Peoples Response

Give Thanks

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cW7dAZXvVGE>

### Prayer of Dedication

Name above all names,  
as you emptied yourself for others,  
we offer ourselves and these gifts  
as a sign of our hope in your reign.  
Where there is death, bring life.  
Where there is sorrow, bring joy.  
Where there is injustice, bring courage for change. **Amen.**

### The Holy Scripture **Philippians 2:1-11** The Message

#### **He Took on the Status of a Slave**

**2** 1-4 If you've gotten anything at all out of following Christ, if his love has made any difference in your life, if being in a community of the Spirit means anything to you, if you have a heart, if you *care*— then do me a favor: Agree with each other, love each other, be deep-spirited friends. Don't push your way to the front; don't sweet-talk your way to the top. Put yourself aside, and help others get ahead. Don't be obsessed with getting your own advantage. Forget yourselves long enough to lend a helping hand.

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5-8 Think of yourselves the way Christ Jesus thought of himself. He had equal status with God but didn't think so much of himself that he had to cling to the advantages of that status no matter what. Not at all. When the time came, he set aside the privileges of deity and took on the status of a slave, became *human*! Having become human, he stayed human. It was an incredibly humbling process. He didn't claim special privileges. Instead, he lived a selfless, obedient life and then died a selfless, obedient death—and the worst kind of death at that—a crucifixion.

9-11 Because of that obedience, God lifted him high and honored him far beyond anyone or anything, ever, so that all created beings in heaven and on earth—even those long ago dead and buried—will bow in worship before this Jesus Christ, and call out in praise that he is the Master of all, to the glorious honor of God the Father.

**Sermon**            “Christ be in my Eyes” <https://youtu.be/IJswbWWyJ8E>

**Videos:**            'Colorblindness' Is Lazy and Toxic (3:46 Minutes)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9aBOs87rGag>

Why 'Colorblindness' Is Toxic (4:43 Minutes)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IKTBRw4ml2c>

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**Sending Hymn      For the healing of the nations**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OYFwJitauAM>

### **Benediction / Sending Forth**

**Great Spirit of Love, as we move into a new week, we ask that you would give us the courage to continue to have honest dialogue with each other, so that people might look back at the history of this time period and see the that the church continued the work of Jesus simply, peacefully, together.**

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<sup>ii</sup> ~ written by Cheryl Lawrie and posted on [hold this space]. <http://holdthisspace.org.au/>

<sup>ii</sup> St. Teresa of Avila (1515-1582)

<sup>ii</sup> Rohr, Richard, *Daily Meditation*, <https://cac.org/the-unspoken-privilege-of-being-white-2020-06-08/#qsc.tab=0>

<sup>ii</sup> ~ from *How the Earth Praises God*. Posted on the United Church of Christ's **Worship**

**Ways** website. <http://www.ucc.org/worship/worship-ways/>