



*A Service of Worship for  
6 February 2022*

They tried to bury us, but they didn't know we were seeds.

Dinos Christianopoulos

Preparing for worship with silence

Gathering in peace

Peace be with you!  
**And also with you!**

Ring in the hour

Silence is kept

Prelude

John Stanley  
(1711-1786)

“Trumpet Voluntary”

Call to Worship

\*+Opening Hymn #138

Nicaea

“Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty”

+Opening Prayer

**Enter with me the sacred space.  
Bring with you what is yours—  
    a burdened heart, a joyous song,  
    a wearied spirit, a seeking mind.  
Bring the gift of yourself to the altar.  
It is an honorable gift.**

Scripture Lesson

Isaiah 6:1-13

These are our sacred stories.

**Thanks be to God.**

Time for Children

+Response:

Lasst uns erfreuen

**In every land begin the song,  
To every land the strains belong:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
In cheerful sound all voices raise  
And fill the world with joyful praise.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Call to Confession

Silent Confession

Unison Confession

**God of Grace--**

**We confess:**

**You call us, but we do not want to hear.**

**You call us, but it sounds so unreasonable.**

**You call us, but we seem so ill-equipped.**

**You call us, but we are not ready.**

**You call us . . .**

Words of Assurance

Music

Giovanni Battista Pergolesi  
(1710-1736)

“Sanctus and Hosanna”

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of Sabaoth,  
Heaven and earth are filled with Thy glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Silent Reflection

Proclamation

Hymn #419

“How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord”

Repton

Prayer

Invitation

Offering

Offertory

Marcel Dupré  
(1886-1971)

“Antiphon III”

+Prayer of Dedication

**May I be at peace, more patient with myself.**

**Let me live within the questions that promise no answers  
but only signal the mystery that gave them birth.**

**Let me turn from every pettiness of the heart,  
willing to see and accept that the world does not revolve around me.**

**Let the grief, the pain, and the nameless trouble that overcomes me  
also open me to feel what others have felt.**

\*Doxology

Old Hundredth

*Praise God the Source of life and birth.  
Praise God the Word, who came to earth.  
Praise God the Spirit, holy flame,  
All glory, honor to God's name! Amen.*

+Affirmation of Faith

**My Lord, God,  
I have no idea where I am going,  
I do not see the road ahead of me,  
I cannot know for certain where it will end.**

**Nor do I really know myself,  
and the fact that I think  
I am following Your will  
does not mean that I am actually doing so.  
But I believe  
that the desire to please You  
does in fact please You.  
And I hope I have that desire  
in all that I am doing.**

**I hope that I will never do anything  
apart from that desire to please You.  
And I know that if I do this  
You will lead me by the right road,  
though I may know nothing about it.  
Therefore I will trust You always  
though I may seem to be lost  
and in the shadow of death.  
I will not fear,  
for You are ever with me,  
and You will never leave me  
to make my journey alone.**

“The Voice of God is Calling”

**The voice of God is calling  
A summons unto all;  
As once they heard in Zion,  
So now we hear the call.  
“Whom shall I send to succor  
My people in their need?  
Whom shall I send to loosen  
The bonds of shame and greed?**

**“I hear my people crying  
In cot and mine and slum;  
No field or mart is silent,  
No city street is mute.  
I see my people falling  
In darkness and despair.  
Whom shall I send to shatter  
The fetters which they bear?”**

**We heed, O God, thy summons,  
And answer: “Here are we!  
Send us upon thine errand,  
Let us thy servants be.  
Our strength is dust and ashes,  
Our years a passing hour;  
But thou canst use our weakness  
To magnify thy power.**

**“From ease and plenty save us;  
From pride of place absolve;  
Purge us of low desire;  
Lift us to high resolve;**

**Take us, and make us holy;  
Teach us thy will and way.  
Speak, and, behold! we answer;  
Command, and we obey!”**

Benediction

Postlude

Marcel Dupré  
(1886-1971)

“Antiphon I”

## **Worship Notes**

The worship leader is **Amy Corron**.

The Call to Worship is "The Shimmering Hours" by Jan Richardson.

The Opening Prayer is from Amarette Callaway in the 1997 *Unitarian Universalist Ministers' Association Worship Materials Collection: from Tibetan lama, Tarthang Tulku*.

The Unison Confession is by Jay Leach.

The Prayer of Dedication is by George Kimmich Beach in the 1997 *Unitarian Universalist Ministers Association Worship Materials Collection*

The Affirmation of Faith is from *Thoughts in Solitude* by Thomas Merton.

The text of "The Voice of God is Calling" is by John Haynes Holmes (1913).

### **Education 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.**

#### Adult Education

This Sunday we will view and discuss a powerful sermon on racial justice by Austin Channing Brown, originally delivered in 2018. She tells the story of Rizpah, whose sons were killed by King David as presumptive justice for grievances against former King Saul (2 Samuel 21: 1-14). You will quickly realize why this sermon "brought down the house".

We now have Zoom capability using the large screen TV in the Adult Education classroom. Please contact Bill Kline at [kline.william@gmail.com](mailto:kline.william@gmail.com) if you wish to participate in this way so we can arrange for building access.

- Bill Kline

#### Children & Youth Sunday School

We will have two options for Sunday School: virtual from 10-10:30, and in-person in the Huff Fellowship Hall from 10:30-11 (masks required). This way, everyone can take part in the fun.

- Trena' Jamison

Zoom links and materials are available on the Online Gatherings page on our website:

<https://www.covenanthouston.org/covenant-gatherings.html>

### **Announcements**

Hi Families of Children & Youth,

Please join us Sunday, February 13, after service for some games and community service. We will create some greeting cards for cancer patients while enjoying the company of each other playing games. I hope to see you all there.

- Trena' Jamison

## Calendar

Sun, Feb 6	9:00 am	Adult Education, Zoom Meeting
	10:00 am	Children & Youth Sunday School, Zoom
	10:30 am	Children & Youth Sunday School, Covenant
	11:00 am	Worship in-person, Covenant
	11:00 am	Worship live-stream
Tue. Feb 8	1:00 pm	Lunchtime Lectionary Lab, Zoom Meeting
Thur. Feb 10	10:00 am	Community Group, Zoom Meeting
Thur. Feb 10	7:15 pm	Covenant Singers Rehearsal, Covenant
Fri. Feb 11	1:00 pm	Book Club, Zoom Meeting

## Helpful Information

**Visitor Cards:** If you're a visitor with us, please submit a [Visitors Card](#).

**Celebrations and Concerns:** If you would like to share a celebration or concern with the Covenant community, please submit a [Celebrations and Concerns Form](#).

**Membership:** If you are interested in learning more about Covenant, we encourage you to talk with one of the ministers or the worship leader. Email [Office@covenanthouston.org](mailto:Office@covenanthouston.org).

**Newsletter:** To subscribe to the newsletter, send a request to [office@covenanthouston.org](mailto:office@covenanthouston.org).

**Office Hours:** The church office is currently not open, but we are responding to emails and phone calls.

*Covenant Church affirms the sanctity, dignity, and equality  
of human beings and the value of all life in the universe.*

*We welcome persons of all racial and ethnic heritages, all sexual orientations,  
all gender identities, and all faith perspectives to our Christian community.*

*We stand for each individual's right to worship God and to respond  
to God's call to ministry in her or his own understanding  
of God's all-encompassing love.*

*We value a holistic approach to faith and seek to worship in ways that are  
intellectually credible, emotionally stimulating, spiritually engaging  
and contemporarily relevant.*

*We value music and art and ritual to express what we cannot ever fully say.*

*We value participation so that we might hear many approaches  
to our shared faith.*

**Covenant Church, an ecumenical, liberal, Baptist congregation**

Members of Covenant, Ministers

Fran Avera, Minister of Music, Emerita

Monique Cruz, Office and Financial Administrator

Trena' Jamison, Director of Children and Youth

David Lee, Director of Music

Laura Mayo, Senior Minister

Christopher Teel, Organist

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