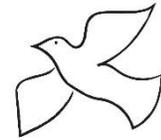


Worship at Berkeley Friends Church
June 6, 2021 11:00 AM – 12:15 PM



Presider - Steve Sims

Meditation

Prayer

Hymn - God Of Grace, God Of Glory

God of grace and God of glory,
On thy people pour thy power;
Crown thine ancient church's story,
Bring its bud to glorious flower.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
For the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.

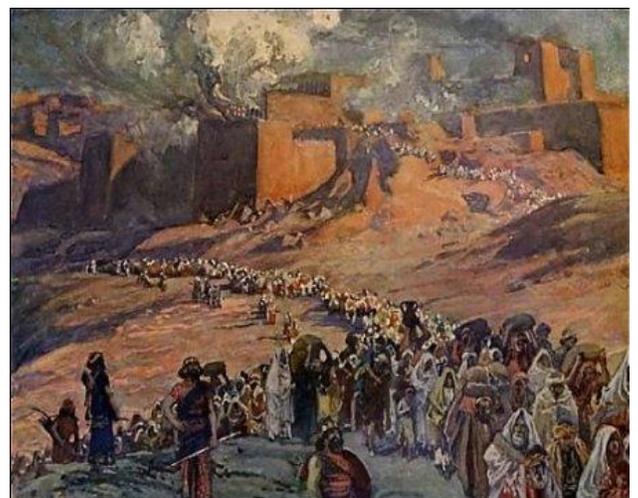
Lo! The hosts of evil round us
Scorn the Christ, assail his ways!
From the fears that long have bound us,
Free our hearts to faith and praise.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
For the living of these days,
For the living of these days.

Cure thy children's warring madness;
Bend our pride to thy control;
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
Rich in things and poor in soul.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
Lest we miss thy kingdoms goal,
Lest we miss thy kingdoms goal.

Save us from weak resignation
To the evils we deplore;
Let the search for thy salvation
Be our glory evermore.



Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
Serving you whom we adore,
Serving you whom we adore.

Praises & Petitions

Scripture - Jeremiah 29:4-7

Message - "What we can learn from the Book of Esther" - John Burdick

Open Worship

Christ is ministering to us in the silence. Nothing needs to be said, unless there is a clear leading to speak. After a period of centering down, if you feel a leading to speak, please be obedient to it: Speak clearly, loudly, and succinctly. Allow time for a message to settle before another message is offered.

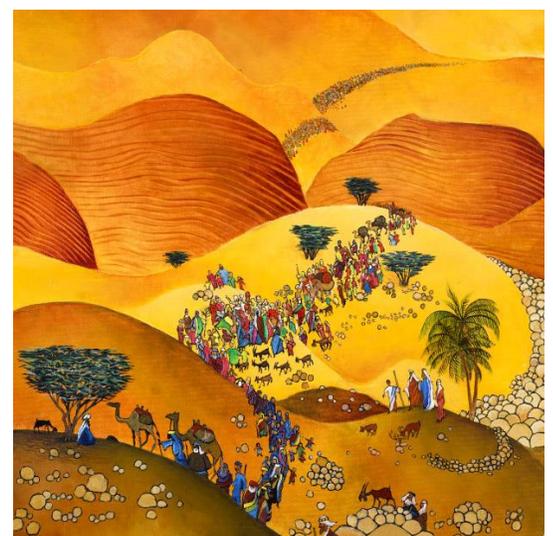
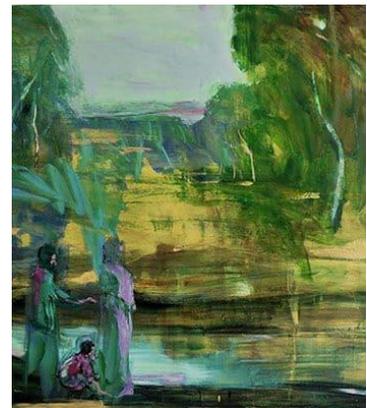
Hymn - How Firm A Foundation

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!
What more can He say than to you He hath said,
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dismayed,
For I am thy god, and will still give thee aid;
I'll strengthen thee, help thee and cause thee to stand,
Up held by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

When through the deep waters I call thee to go,
The rivers of sorrow shall not over flow;
For I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless,
And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

When through fiery trials thy path way shall lie,
My grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply:
The flame shall not hurt thee; I only design
Thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.
The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to his foes;
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake! Amen.



Welcome – Announcements- Offering

God is the Great Giver and has given much to us. The contributions you make are vital to the life of the meeting. Please consider offerings through mail (mark envelope - Attn: Asst. Treasurer) or the Donate Now button on the church's website.

Welcome

We are a welcoming and inclusive congregation. We trust that your heart may be warmed by the Lord's Presence as we worship together. If you have prayer needs or spiritual concerns, please call or email the pastors, Micah Bales and Faith Kelley, or any member of Ministry and Council.

Church Announcements

Sermon by Phone - Listen to the sermon each week on the website or our sermon by phone service. To listen to the sermon on your phone, **call 510-201-9143** at any time to hear each week's message. New sermons are uploaded on Sunday afternoons.

Bible Study starts 7:30 PM on Tuesdays via Zoom. You do not need to have read or have a copy of the book available as we read a discussion and then discuss. We are discussing the book - **Jesus and Nonviolence by Walter Wink**. In this book Wink argues that Christian tradition of nonviolence is needed as an alternative to the dominant and death-dealing powers of our consumerist culture and fractured world. While you can join Bible Study any time, the start of a new book is a great time to start attending.

BFC Park Meet Up- Saturday June 19 at 10:00 AM at Strawberry Creek Park picnic area. The park is at 1260 Allston Way between Bancroft Way and Addison Street at West Street. We'll enjoy hanging out together, yard games and (for those of the correct age) playing on the playground. Come enjoy seeing each other in real life again!

Barclay Press and **Pendle Hill** are collaborating on the *Illuminate* Summer Speaker Series, 2nd and 4th Mondays, June 14 to August 23, 7:30–9 p.m. ET via Zoom. Join us for a series of evening discussions with authors of the Barclay Press *Illuminate* Friends Bible study summer curriculum on Ephesians, Philippians, and Colossians. [Click here for more information.](#)

A memorial service for Joyce Kumao will be held on **Saturday June 26 at 2:30 PM** at the meeting house. All are invited to attend. More details to come.

We are "Seeking Peace Around the World!" Each summer at First Friends Church in Whittier, California we organize **Peace Camp for the children (1st to 8th grade)** of our Meeting and also invite friends from our community. **Because of the pandemic, our camp will gather virtually this summer. Peace Camp will take place beginning on Monday, July 19, 2021 and close on Friday, July 23rd.** Daily, virtual meet up will commence at 10:00 a.m. and close at 11:30 a.m. (PST). Our camp directors, myself and Candice Ryder, will be prepared with a series of activities to engage the children in reflecting, seeking and sharing peace in the world around us. Cassie Caringella cassie.wfs@gmail.com and Candice Ryder cryder55@hotmail.com

The Friends Committee on National Legislation seeks a Spirit-led, seasoned, and strategic Quaker leader who brings vision, inspiration, and executive experience to lead the biggest faith-based lobbying organization in Washington, DC. More information can be found at www.fcnl.org/gsearch. Applications and nominations may be emailed to gssearch@fcnl.org.

Keep up with BFC throughout the week. Join the announcement listserv by emailing Faith at pastor@berkeleyfriendschurch.org and follow us on Facebook.

Praises and Petitions of Berkeley Friends Church June 6, 2021

- We thank you that no problem we face in our life, church fellowship, local community, or nation, is too difficult for you and that you are the God of the impossible. Thank you that you have a perfect plan for us and that nothing can thwart your program of redemption.
- We pray for **loved ones** in our circles of care: All those diagnosed with, suffering from, or recovering from serious illnesses including **Liz's classmate Allie, Joe Williams, Dianna's friend Sebastian, Robbie Williams, Marilyn's friend Bruce, Faith's cousin Vicki, Veneita Porter, Donna Bales, Jayne's relative Quincy and Stanley Chagala Ngesa.**
- We ask for God's presence with **Friends not able to be with us: Charles Blue and Janice Wells.**
- **We pray for all those who are sick with Covid around the world.** May they get the care they need. May their symptoms be mild and pass quickly. Protect all those whose work makes them risk infection- doctors, nurses and other medical personnel, bus drivers, grocery store workers and daycare workers. May the vaccine be distributed quickly and equitably.
- We pray for **Maya, Jayne's daughter-in-law,** as she comes close to the time to deliver her baby. May the c-section go smoothly. Help her recover quickly. May she and her family rejoice in the new member who has joined them.
- We ask for **wisdom for our community** as we begin to plan for returning to in person worship. Help us to figure out our building use needs together. May we listen to and support each other as we collectively listen for God's direction.
- We pray for all those who are **supporting family members and friends through illness, particularly chronic illnesses.** It is often a thankless task to be a caregiver to a loved one in need. May they feel valued, supported and helped.
- We pray for **the water needs of our state.** Bring us the moisture that we need. May we learn to conserve what we have. Help us to address the root causes of climate change together as a global community.
- We **thank you for the LGBTQ+ members of our church family.** We are made in your image, created to reflect your greatness. We are reminded how great your love is among us by the diversity it encompasses.
- For a world where lies are accepted at face value; hear our prayer, God of truth. For a world where racism in high places is tolerated; hear our prayer, God of the oppressed. For a world where the rich hold the reins of power; hear our prayer, God of the poor. For a world where men violate women with impunity; hear our prayer, God of the downtrodden. For a world where hatred is growing by

leaps and bounds; hear our prayer, God of the vulnerable. **God of hope, we turn to you for vision and courage as we strive to be faithful in word and deed**, followers of Christ in times like these.



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Meeting Clerk: John Maurer
Ministry & Counsel Committee:
Nikki Nahmens Gage, Dorothy Kakimoto,
John Maurer, Louise Neal (clerk), Jayne Nichols, Steve Sims