

September 6, 2020 Economic Justice Sunday 9:45 AM

PRELUDE

John Douglas and Jeffrey Segal
Let Us Break Bread Together
Arr. by Dorothy I. Strohman

Welcome by Pastor Mike Holland

CALL TO WORSHIP

led by Susan & Bill Richardson

One: We as a church know that Jesus promoted values of Peace and Justice, which demand change of us and our social systems, often making folks uncomfortable.

Many: **It is tempting to assume that people get what they deserve – no more or less. Yet, in God’s economy hearts are more generous than often imagined.**

One: Society’s dominant idea of justice as retribution is not God’s idea of justice as distribution. Clearly, Jesus’ life and witness modeled true justice in the divine realm.

Many: **May the Spirit of Christ continue to touch our hearts that we may be faithful witnesses and effective voices for economic and worker justice.**

One: May the Spirit of Christ continue to create in us new hearts to love and care for our neighbors and all of creation as much as we do for ourselves. Let us pray.

Prayer (unison): led by Susan & Bill Richardson

Caring, Working God, on this Sunday we seek special blessings on all who labor, either for pay or as volunteers, in jobs or in school, in the workplace or at home, in the U.S. and around the world. We especially pray for workers who do not have jobs and for those whose pay is inadequate to allow them to live the life You intend for each of us. Creator Goddess, help us build a new world in the midst of the old that is more just. Amen

OPENING SONG

Hammer Song
Pete Seger

CHILDREN & YOUTH MOMENT with Robbie Arevalos

MORNING PRAYERS

Pastoral Prayer

Pastor Kel Henderson

Lord’s Prayer, Gnostic Version

Our Father and Mother God, You are within us all, and You make all things holy and united, as You are holy and united, one God living and true. Your Kingdom come, Your will be done, which is love to all that lives in the heavens and on the earth. Give us this day our daily bread, and let us give our daily bread to those who have none; and heal our broken spirits, as we heal and forgive others. And lead us, through the darkness of your mystical love, to the light of the Christ, Amen

SPECIAL MUSIC

John Douglas and Jeffrey Segal

I Write the Songs

By Bruce Johnston

Artist: Barry Manilow

SCRIPTURE READING

Michelle Linton

Matthew 20:1-16

‘For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. ³At about nine o’clock, he saw others stand idle in the marketplace; ⁴and he said to them, “If you also go into the vineyard, I will pay you whatever is just.” So, they went. ⁵When he went out again about noon and three o’clock, he did the same. ⁶At five o’clock he still found others standing around; and said to them, “Why are you standing here idle all day?” ⁷They replied, “Because no one hired us.” Then he said to them, “You also go into the vineyard.” ⁸When evening came, the vineyard owner said to his manager, “Call the laborers and pay them, beginning with those hired last and then the first.” ⁹When those hired about five o’clock came, each received a full days wage. ¹⁰Now when the first hired came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a

daily wage. ¹¹Upon receiving it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹²saying, "These last hired worked only one hour, and you made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat." ¹³The owner replied to one of them, "Friend, I do you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?" ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first will be last.'

A Six Principle of Progressive Christianity

*Work toward peace and justice among all people
and all life on Earth.*

MESSAGE

An Economy of Grace

Pastor Mike

DISCIPLESHIP SONG *What Does the Lord Require of Us?*

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

Sunny Erickson

(Online giving is an option through churchofthefoothills.org)

(Or, mail in pledges and gifts to the church office.

Or, drop them in the mail slot at the church office. Thank You!)

BENEDICTION

Pastor Kel Henderson

CONGREGATIONAL/CHORAL RESPONSE

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place;

I can feel God's mighty power and God's grace.

I can hear the brush of angels' wings, I see glory on each face;

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

(Repeat)

POSTLUDE

John Douglas and Jeffrey Segal

Commune with Me

By Kirk Bearman