

JANUARY 20, 2025

For Such a Time as This

Interfaith Service and Moral Mass Meeting

A Prophetic Response to America's Defining Moment

Healing Cathedral Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
4523 Elvis Presley Blvd. | Memphis TN 38116



Order of Worship for the Interfaith Service
For Such a Time as This: A Moral Call to Action in America's Defining Moment
Moral Mass Meeting and Interfaith Worship
January 20, 2025
Healing Cathedral Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Memphis, TN

Worship Service Leaders

Rev. Dr. Hanna Broome
National Director of Religious Affairs, Repairers of
the Breach
Bishop Andrea Vassell
Bishop of Global Ministry-TFAM

Honoring the Ancestors

Rev. Iya Estee Dillard, Minister
Rize Community Church
Indigenous Faith Practitioner

Prelude: Grounding Music

Ms. Yara Allen, Director of Theomusicology and
Cultural Arts, Repairers of the Breach,

Welcome

Pastor Tyrone Hunt, Senior Pastor,
Healing Cathedral Christian Church,

Call to Worship

Dr. Alvin O'Neal Jackson,
National Faith Convener, Repairers of the Breach

Congregational Response:

We are called to unity. We are called to justice. We are called for such a time as this. With faith, we unite. With hope, we persist. With love, we journey toward justice.

Sacred Text Readings

Rev. Nathan Day Wilson, World Council of
Churches, Church and Ecumenical Relations
Imam Wali Shaheed-
Dr. Laurence Albert, Professor of Music and
Voice, Tougaloo College
Angana Challa, Viswa Yogi Foundation
Rabbi Sarit Horowitz,
Congregation Beth Shalom
Rev. Moya Harris, Itinerant Elder, AME Church;
Fellowship Director, Sojourners

Congregational Response:

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Framing the Moment

Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson,
General Minister & President (GMP)/CEO of UCC

Reflections & Inspirational Music

Bishop Yvette Flunder,
Senior Pastor, City of Refuge United Church of
Christ, Oakland, CA; Presiding Bishop of TFAM

Friends from every background and tradition, we invite you to scan the barcode and join our ongoing collaborative movement toward a more equitable, just, and compassionate world. Together, we stand in the spirit of those who have long dreamed of liberation, forging a future where our shared humanity flourishes.



Order of Worship for the Interfaith Service
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Prophetic Reflections from National Leaders

Rev. Dr. Soni Cantrell-Smith,
President of Centers for Spiritual Living
Rev. Shane Claiborne,
Co-director of Red Letter Christians
Rev. Terri Hord-Owens,
General Minister and President of the Christian
Church (Disciples of Christ)
Rev. Cecilia Eggleton, Moderator of Universal
Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Church

Congregational Response:

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Inspirational Music – Choir

Prophetic Reflections from Memphis

Rev. Dr. Rosalyn R. Nichols, Pastor of Freedom's
Chapel Christian Church (Disciples of Christ),
Founding Member of MICAHA (Memphis Interfaith
Coalition for Action and Hope)
Rev. Dr. Andre E. Johnson,
Samuel Dewitt Proctor Conference
Rev. Gordon Myers, Retired Pastor in the
Evangelical Lutheran Church
Rev. Dr. Keith Norman, Pastor of First Baptist
Church—Broad in Binghampton; VP of
Government Affairs for Baptist

Congregational Response:

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A Moral Call to Action

Bishop William J. Barber II, President and Senior
Lecturer, Repairers of the Breach; Professor of
Public Theology, Yale Divinity

Pledge to Commit

Congregation

Inspirational Closing Music – Choir

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Karen Georgia Thompson

The Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia A. Thompson is the General Minister and President and the Chief Executive Officer of the United Church of Christ. Rev. Thompson is the first woman and first woman of African descent to serve as leader of the denomination. She is a writer, poet and theologian who has contributed to numerous publications. Her book of poetry *Drums in Our Veins* was published in 2022.

Prior to this call, Rev. Thompson served in the national setting of the United Church of Christ for 14 years – two years as Minister for Racial Justice, eight years as Minister for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations, and four years as the Associate General Minister for Wider Church Ministries and Co-Executive for Global Ministries. She was elected as Associate General Minister in 2019. As General Minister and President of the UCC, Rev. Thompson is the head of communion and the spiritual leader of the church, as well as the executive leader of the church.



Yvette Flunder

A native San Franciscan, Bishop Yvette Flunder is a third generation preacher with roots in the Church of God in Christ. She was licensed in the COGIC and later ordained by the Bishop Walter Hawkins of Love Center Ministries where she served as Associate Pastor and administrator for the Oakland-based Love Center Church. In 1984 Bishop Flunder began performing and recording with “Walter Hawkins and the Family” and the Love Center Choir. Other gospel music recordings include *There’s Power with the City of Refuge Praise Ensemble*, *We Won’t Be Silent Anymore with The Fellowship Mass Choir*, and *How Sweet the Sound*, with the Grammy Award winning Chanticleer.

Bishop Flunder is also an ordained Minister of the United Church of Christ and a graduate of the Ministry Studies and Master of Arts programs at the Pacific School of Religion, Berkeley, California. She received a Doctor of Ministry degree from San Francisco Theological Seminary in San Anselmo California.

In June 2003 Bishop Flunder was consecrated Presiding Bishop of The Fellowship a multi-denominational fellowship of 110 primarily African American Christian leaders and laity representing 56 churches and faith- based organizations from all parts of the United States Mexico and Africa



William J. Barber, II

Bishop William J. Barber II, DMin, is President and Senior Lecturer of Repairers of the Breach; a Professor in the Practice of Public Theology and Public Policy and Founding Director of the Center for Public Theology and Public Policy at Yale Divinity School; Co-Chair of the Poor People’s Campaign: A National Call For Moral Revival and Bishop with The Fellowship of Affirming Ministries.

Bishop Barber is the author of five books: *We Are Called To Be A Movement*; *Revive Us Again: Vision and Action in Moral Organizing*; *The Third Reconstruction: Moral Mondays, Fusion Politics, and The Rise of a New Justice Movement*; *Forward Together: A Moral Message For The Nation*, and *White Poverty: How Exposing Myths About Race and Class Can Reconstruct American Democracy*.

A highly sought-after speaker, Bishop Barber has given keynote addresses at hundreds of national and state conferences, including the 2016 Democratic National Convention, the homily at the 59th Inaugural Prayer Service for President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris, the Vatican at Pope Francis’s encyclical “*Laudato Si’: On Care for Our Common Home*” and the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences. In June 2018, he addressed the 5th Uni Global Union World Congress to more than 25 countries



Sofia Betancourt

The Rev. Dr. Sofia Betancourt is the tenth president of the Unitarian Universalist Association. She was elected in June 2023. As president of the Association, she is responsible for administering staff and programs that serve its more than 1,000 member congregations. She also acts as principal spokesperson and minister-at-large for the UUA.

Rev. Dr. Sofia Betancourt’s twenty-year ministry has included serving as a parish minister, seminary professor, scholar and environmental ethicist, and public theologian. Rooted in her lived identities as a queer, multiracial, AfroLatine first-generation daughter of immigrants from Chile and Panamá, Rev. Dr. Betancourt has already helped Unitarian Universalism live further into its commitments to be a radically welcoming, counter-oppressive, pluralistic faith movement.



Terri Hord-Owens

Rev. Teresa "Terri" Hord Owens is the General Minister and President of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada. She is the first person of color and second woman to lead the denomination, and the first woman of African descent to lead a mainline denomination.

Elected in 2017, Rev. Hord Owens was re-elected to a second term as General Minister and President in 2023. Her ministry actively reflects the Disciples' priority of being an anti-racist church, being a movement for wholeness, welcoming all to the Lord's table as God has welcomed us. Her exhortation to the church is "Let's be the church we say we are. It is in being who we say we are that we actively bear witness to God's limitless love for all."

Rev. Hord Owens earned her bachelor's degree from Harvard University and her MDiv from the University of Chicago Divinity School, where she subsequently served as Dean of Students for 12 years. Rev. Hord Owens' resume includes more than 20 years of leadership in corporate America leading diverse teams in data management. She serves on the National Council of Churches as the Treasurer of the Governing Board and is a member of the World Council of Churches Central Committee.



Shane Claiborne

Shane Claiborne is a prominent speaker, activist, and best-selling author. Shane worked with Mother Teresa in Calcutta, and founded The Simple Way in Philadelphia. He heads up Red Letter Christians, a movement of folks who are committed to living "as if Jesus meant the things he said." Shane is a champion for grace which has led him to jail advocating for the homeless, and to places like Iraq and Afghanistan to stand against war. Now grace fuels his passion to end the death penalty and help stop gun violence.

Shane's books include *Jesus for President*, *Red Letter Revolution*, *Common Prayer*, *Follow Me to Freedom*, *Jesus, Bombs and Ice Cream*, *Becoming the Answer to Our Prayers*, *Executing Grace*, his classic *The Irresistible Revolution*, *Beating Guns*, and his newest book, *Rethinking Life*. He has been featured in a number of films including "Another World Is Possible" and "Ordinary Radicals." His books have been translated into more than a dozen languages. His work has appeared in Esquire, SPIN, Christianity Today, TIME, and The Wall Street Journal, and he has been on everything from Fox News and Al Jazeera to CNN and NPR. He's given academic lectures at Harvard, Princeton, Liberty, Duke, and Notre Dame. In 2023, Shane received the prestigious The King Center's Beloved Community Award for Social Justice from Dr. Bernice King (daughter of Martin Luther King Jr. and Coretta Scott King).



Moya Harris

Rev. Moya Harris is an itinerant elder in the African Methodist Episcopal Church, currently serving as clergy staff at Metropolitan AME Church in Washington, D.C., most recently serving as executive minister. She currently is Sojourners' director of racial justice. In this position, she uses her passion for justice, her love of scholarship, and her heart to support those whose backs are against the wall.

Rev. Harris has served in various capacities for almost 20 years in ordained ministry and 30 years as a registered nurse. She is also a scholar, a wife, and a mother. She holds a bachelor's in science degree in nursing from Towson State University and a master of divinity degree from Payne Theological Seminary. She is currently a doctoral student in the African American preaching and sacred rhetoric program at Christian Theological Seminary with focuses in African rhetorical theory, Black preaching, hip hop, and womanism.

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