

South Church in Andover
United Church of Christ

Order of Worship

January 17, 2010

10:30 AM

Martin Luther King, Jr. weekend

MEDITATION:

*But let justice roll down like waters, and
righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.*

(Amos 5:24)

PRELUDE

Improvisation on "Balm In Gilead"

arr. Joseph M.
Martin

Carol Georgine-West, piano

OPENING PSALM (118:24)

THIS is the day that the LORD has made!

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

WELCOME

Introduction of visitors and guests

(Visitors and guests are invited to complete a Visitor Card from the
pew rack and place it in the offering plate)

Announcements

Exchange of Peace

The peace of Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

INTROIT

Swing Low, Sweet Chariot

Spiritual

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Margo

Hoffm
an

Let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream. (Amos)

**Use us, O God, to be ambassadors for your justice and
righteousness.**

Let us share the dream of freedom for all people:

**When we let freedom ring, when we let it ring from every village
and every hamlet, from every state and every city, we will be able
to speed up that day when all of God's children, black and white,
Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join
hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual, "Free at last!
free at last! thank God Almighty, we are free at last!"**
(M. L. King, Jr.)

Lead us, O God,

**Teach us to be people who believe in the way of love and
forgiveness.**

*HYMN:
bulletin)

This Is My Song

(in

*UNISON INVOCATION and THE LORD'S PRAYER
(Please remain standing)

Although You are with us every day, God of all worlds, we come together to know Your presence more fully in this special place set aside for worshiping You. We are here not only to be taught, but also to be chastened. We are here not only to remember, but also to be renewed. We are here not only to celebrate our freedom, but also to be strengthened in the living out of our responsibilities. May our worship be genuine and our discipleship complete. This we pray in the name of Jesus, who taught his disciples to pray, saying *Our Father...* (debts)

*PRAYER RESPONSE

**This is the day, this is the day
that our God has made,
that our God has made;
We will rejoice, we will rejoice
and be glad in it,
and be glad in it.**

**This is the day that our God has made,
we will rejoice and be glad in it;
This is the day, this is the day that our God has made.**

SCRIPTURE:

Luke 4:14-22, 28-32

Deacon, Charles

Leinb
ach

Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, "Is not this Joseph's son?" When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way. He went down to Capernaum, a city in Galilee, and was teaching them on the sabbath. They were astounded at his teaching, because he spoke with authority.

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN
Hoerner

Dr. Tom

(Children are invited to go to Church School)

SCRIPTURE:
Leinbach

Amos 5:21-24

Charles

I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them; and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals I will not look upon. Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your harps. But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an everflowing stream

*HYMN:
bulletin)

We Shall Overcome

(in

(Vs. 1, ALL. Vs. 2, CHOIR. Vs. 3, WOMEN. Vs. 4, MEN. Vss. 5 and 6, ALL)

MESSAGE:
Zehring

An unfinished work

The Reverend John W.

MUSICAL RESPONSE

Peace is Flowing Like a River

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS IN THANKSGIVING

If you have already paid your pledge electronically or in advance, you are invited to submit into the offering plate the green giving card in the pew rack to symbolize your prayer that God will bless your giving and that your gift will support the mission and ministry of the Church in meeting the needs of others and in helping those in need.

INVITATION

OFFERTORY
Hogan

Steal Away

Spiritual, arr. Moses

*DOXOLOGY

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God, all creatures here below,
Praise God, above ye heav'nly host,
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION
Leinbach

Led by Charles

Blessed God, let your love flow through these gifts we now give. As your children, strengthened by your Spirit, we offer our love and our lives. Let our love be an instrument of peace, an expression of hope, a sign of your presence in the world. In Christ, we pray. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER REQUESTS:

When invited, you are welcome to request prayers.
Please speak loudly enough for all to hear so that

we

may lift up your request in our prayers.

RESPONSIVE PRAYER

LEADER: Martin King had a dream. The ideals of justice and freedom and the belief that all are created equal in the eyes of God are noble principles. But they are meaningless unless they become the personal possession of each one of us.

ALL: For Zion's sake I will not keep silent. I will struggle with myself. I will not rest until the dream of justice and freedom becomes my personal dream. I must realize that I am not an innocent bystander. I can help realize the dream by my action, or delay it by my inaction.

LEADER: Martin's dream of a day when people from all races and nations, even the offspring of slaves and former slave owners, can sit at a table as brothers and sisters and find ways of transforming their differences into assets. That was Martin's dream. What is your dream?

ALL: My dream is that one day soon I will find a way to stop just celebrating the dream and start living it. It must become a part of my daily life; or nothing much will change.

LEADER: The dream is not about an ideal world; it is about the real world. Martin King's poetic refrain, "*I Have a Dream*," is a call for us to remember the real world where injustice abounds.

ALL: When I am in the shelter of my home I must remember the homeless. When I eat, I must remember the hungry. When I feel secure I must remember the insecure. When I see injustice I must remember that it will not stop unless I stop it.

LEADER: I have a dream!

ALL: I also have a dream. I have a dream that the Holy Spirit will arouse in me that very flame of righteousness that caused Martin King to become a living sacrifice for the freedom and liberation of all of God's Children. Then I will be able to resist racial injustice everywhere I see it, even within myself.

*HYMN: *Peace I Leave with You, My Friends* (in
bulletin)

*BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE *A I John Benediction* Charles
Leinbach

*POSTLUDE *Ride the Chariot*
Spiritual, arr.

Jeffrey Cutts, Jeff Cutts, Marty Mason, Don Miller, Tom Harvey

(Please remain seated for the postlude)

* All who are able, please stand

SOUTH CHURCH IN ANDOVER is an Open and Affirming Congregation
of the United Church of Christ.