

# *2nd Sunday after Epiphany*

## *January 16, 2022*

10:00 A.M.

Green

*Our goal is to create a beloved community and this will require  
a qualitative change in our souls as well as a quantitative change in our lives.*

*Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*



*(You are invited to a time of quiet preparation for worship during the Prelude.)*

Prelude *Rock of Ages* – arr. John Rasley

Welcome and Informal Moments

Musical Introit *Unclouded Day* – arr. Paula Carl

*“Oh, they tell me of a home far beyond the skies.*

*Oh, they tell me of a home far away*

*Oh, they tell me of a home where no storm clouds rise.*

*Oh, they tell me of an unclouded day.”*

\*Call to Worship

Leader: Our Mother-Father God

has made us to be One Body with many members.

**All: United and uniting. This is our calling.**

Leader: God calls us to share our diverse gifts

activated by the one and same Spirit .

**All: United and uniting. This is our redemption.**

Leader: God longs for us to be united in love

and to manifest the Spirit in our different ways.

**All: United and uniting. This is our worship.**

Leader: Let us gather in this hour to offer praise and worship

to our Holy God, who challenges us

and calls us to *create the Beloved Community.*

\*Gathering Hymn

*We Shall Overcome*

No. 476

**Unison Prayer of Invocation and Lord’s Prayer**

**O God, all people are your Beloved, across races, nationalities,  
religions, sexual orientations and all the ways we are distinctive from  
one another. We are all manifestations of your image. *We are bound***

*together in an inescapable network of mutuality and tied to a single garment of destiny. You call us into your unending work of justice, peace and love. Let us know your presence among us now:*

**Let us delight in our diversity**

**That offers glimpses of the mosaic of your beauty.**

**Strengthen us with your steadfast love and**

**Transform our despairing fatigue into hope-filled action.**

**Under the shadow of your wings in this hour may we find rest and strength, renewal and hope. We ask this, inspired by the example of your disciple, Martin Luther King, Jr., and in the name of Jesus who taught us to pray: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Prayer of Confession

Leader: O God, we long to co-create with you the Beloved Community which looks to the common good; privileges all equally, and creates societal systems which celebrate the humanity and the gifts of all. And yet we focus on our differences, envy each other's gifts, devalue manifestations of you, O God, that are not like our own.

**All: Perhaps our sin is a slow wait for justice: We allow the voices of brothers and sisters who do not look like us, love like us, or worship like us to be silenced. We have told them to wait for freedom, justice and equality. We foster in them a denigrating sense of nobodiness.**

Leader: Or perhaps we have kept silence ourselves in the face of their struggle for full human life. *For it is not solely hateful words and actions, but also appalling silence that follows the path of oppression.* Perhaps our sin is to give in to weariness, discouragement, bitterness; you have called us to be *drum majors for justice, peace and righteousness.*

**All: Yet the work of peace and justice overwhelms us at times, to build with God the Beloved Community seems impossible, and we grow weary. We cry, "Peace, peace," but there is no peace within us or**



Meditation

Rev. Oscar Wallace

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer and Silent Prayer

Musical Prayer Response *Hear Our Prayer, O Lord*

\*Parting Hymn

*Love Will Guide Us*

No. S-7

\*Benediction

Let us go forth to celebrate and strengthen our *inescapable network of mutuality*, and become *the radiant hope* needed in the world. As we go forth in this mutuality, may we experience our God rejoining over us and with us. Let us go forth confident that *unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word*. **Amen!**

\*Sung Benediction

*Go Now in Peace*

*(back of hymnal)*

Postlude

*Lift Every Voice and Sing* – arr, John Barr



*\*All who are able may stand.*

*Phrases from the speeches of Martin Luther King, Jr. have been woven into the prayer texts. They are identified by italics. Texts of King's work are available in **A Testament of Hope: The Essential Writings of Martin Luther King, Jr.**, edited by James M. Washington, © 1986 Coretta Scott King. A brief essay on King's understanding of the term "Beloved Community" is available at <http://www.wilpf.org/mlksbelovedcommunity>.*

**Organist: Joel Pierce**

**Office Administrator: Janet Leonard**

**Sexton: Mary McKinney**

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**Those Serving You Today**  
**Bell Ringer: Tom Kovarik**  
**Ushers: Libby Mooney**  
**Live Streaming: Roger & Beth Whitney**

**Coming Up This Week:**

Sunday, Jan. 16: Worship 10am

Tuesday, Jan. 18: Annual Meeting Reports Due to Office

Wednesday, Jan. 19: Organ Society Meeting, 9:30am

Sunday, Jan. 23: Worship 10am

**Sunday, Jan. 30: Annual Meeting following Worship**

**Announcements**

**Annual Meeting—Sunday, January 30, following worship**

You can join our annual meeting either in person or by Zoom. We must have a quorum to conduct business! Reports from the various committees are due to the office by January 18.

**Supporting the Ministry of our Church**

Thank you for your continued support in sustaining our ministries! Offerings can be mailed to the church at: First Congregational Church, P.O. Box 350, Wiscasset, ME 04578. Thank you!

**Sign-Up Online to Support our Worship Experience—Read Scripture, or Usher!**

If you know you will be here on a Sunday, please sign up to usher, read scripture, or provide flowers for our worship. You can sign up online at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c48aea82aa3f8ce9-church> or by calling the church office at 207-882-7544.

# We Shall Overcome

476

1. We shall o - ver - come, we shall o - ver - come,

The first system of music consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is primarily in the treble clef, with accompaniment in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "1. We shall o - ver - come, we shall o - ver - come,"

we shall o - ver - come some day; Oh, deep in my

The second system of music consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody continues in the treble clef, with accompaniment in the bass clef. There are triplet markings over the notes "day;" and "Oh, deep in my". The lyrics are: "we shall o - ver - come some day; Oh, deep in my"

heart, I do be - lieve, we shall o - ver - come some day.

The third system of music consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody concludes in the treble clef, with accompaniment in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "heart, I do be - lieve, we shall o - ver - come some day."

2. We'll walk hand in hand.
3. We are not afraid . . . today.
4. God will see us through.
5. Truth shall make us free.
6. We shall live in peace.

WORDS: United States traditional

MUSIC: United States traditional, harm. J. Jefferson Cleveland, 1981

Its true origins uncertain, this song emerged in labor union battles in the 1940's to become the hymn of the USA civil rights movement of the 1960's and 1970's.

MARTIN  
Irr.

Harm. © 1981 Abingdon Press,  
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## Lift Every Voice and Sing

1. Lift ev - ery voice and sing till earth and heav - en ring,  
 2. Ston - y the road we trod, bit - ter the chas - tening rod,  
 3. God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent tears,

ring with the har - mo - nies of lib - er - ty;  
 felt in the days when hope un - born had died;  
 God who has brought us thus far on the way;

let our re - joic - ing rise high as the lis - tening skies,  
 yet with a stead - y beat, have not our wea - ry feet  
 God, who by glo - rious might, led us in - to the light,

let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea.  
 come to the place for which our peo - ple sighed?  
 keep us for - ev - er in the path, we pray.

WORDS: James Weldon Johnson, 1921, alt.  
 MUSIC: J. Rosamond Johnson, 1921

LIFT EVERY VOICE  
 12 10.12 10.14 14.12 10

Musician James Weldon Johnson was the first African-American to pass the bar examinations in Florida. The first performance of this song was by African-American children in Florida to celebrate Abraham Lincoln's birthday.

© 1921 Edward B. Marks Music Co.

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;  
 We have come o - ver a way that with tears has been wa - tered;  
 Lest our feet stray from the plac - es, our God, where we met you;

sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has brought us;  
 we have come, tread - ing our path through the blood of the slaugh - tered,  
 lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we for - get you;

fac - ing the ris - ing sun of our new day be - gun,  
 out from the gloom - y past, till now we stand at last  
 shad - owed be - neath your hand, may we for - ev - er stand,

let us march on till vic - to - ry is won.  
 where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.  
 true to our God, true to our na - tive land.

# Love Will Guide Us

S-7

1. Love will guide us, peace has tried us, hope in -  
side us will lead the way on the road from greed to  
giv - ing. Love will guide us through the dark night.

The musical notation consists of three staves of music in G major. The first staff has chords G, C, G, and Em. The second staff has chords G, D, G, and C. The third staff has chords G, Em, G, D9, and G. The melody is written in a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#).

2. If you cannot sing like angels,  
If you cannot speak before thousands  
You can give from deep within you,  
You can change the world with your love.
3. You are like no other being,  
What you can give no other can give  
To the future of our precious children,  
To the future of the world where we live.
4. Hear the song of peace within you,  
Heed the song of peace in your heart,  
Spring's new beginning shall lead to the harvest.  
Love will guide us on our way.
5. Love will guide us, peace has tried us,  
Hope inside us will lead the way  
On the road from greed to giving.  
Love will guide us through the dark night.

WORDS: Sally Rogers  
MUSIC: Traditional

OLYMPIA  
LM

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