



Hyattsville Mennonite Church

A Christ-centered welcoming church committed to peace & justice.

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Gathering for Worship

VT – *Voices Together* hymnal (purple)

Prelude: *Lift Every Voice and Sing*

Praising

Call to Worship (*from Exodus 15*)

I will sing to the Lord,

For God has triumphed gloriously!

The horse and its rider have been thrown into the sea!

The Lord is my strength and song,

God has become my salvation;

Pharaoh's chariots and his army God cast into the sea;

The depths have covered them;

They sank to the bottom like a stone.

In the greatness of Your majesty

You have overthrown those who rose against you.

The enemy boasted but you blew your breath,

And the sea covered them.

They sank like lead in the mighty waters.

Who among the gods is like you O Lord?

Who is like you, majestic in holiness,

Awesome in glory, working wonders.

You stretched out Your right hand;

The earth swallowed them.

In your unfailing love

You will lead the people you have redeemed.

Hymn: VT 74 – *O Worship Our God, All Glorious Above*

Lighting the Peace Lamp

Confessing

Confession

(adapted from the HMC Racial Justice Statement)

We uphold that diversity is God's blessed design and that followers of Jesus are called to be changemakers for justice but we do not always live that out.

We mourn our congregation's silent witness and complicity in racism in America. Too often we have failed to follow in the footsteps of Jesus and failed to walk in solidarity with Black, Brown, Indigenous, and other people of color who are marginalized.

We acknowledge that our predominantly white congregation has benefited from generations of slave and immigrant labor as well as policies and customs that prioritize and maintain the power of whiteness.

We acknowledge our congregation was part of the "white flight" from the District of Columbia, moving into a suburb with racial covenants and active segregationist policies. We often fail to challenge law enforcement and legal systems that imprison, deny citizenship, and provide unequal justice for poor and disenfranchised neighbors.

Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy. (silence)

Words of Assurance

God knows us and loves us in all our humanness. God calls us to listen, build relationships with and seek out perspectives of persons of color from within and outside our congregation to inform our work for justice. With God's help we commit to lifelong self and community education around issues of implicit bias, systemic racism, and white supremacy.

It is big work, and we will make mistakes.

God knows us and loves us in all our humanness.

Hymn: VT 599 – *We've Come This Far by Faith*

Hearing The Word

Time for Children

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 61:1-4

Acts 10:34-35

Message: **Working Towards Racial Justice**

Hymn: VT 684 – *I Love the Lord*

Responding

Responses

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Please come forward to the mic if you wish to share something.

Praying Together

Work of the Church

Welcoming our Guests

Announcements

The Ministry of Giving

Children's Offering (*children can bring their offerings forward at this time*)

Offertory: I Wish I Knew How

Prayer of Dedication

Sending

Hymn: VT 804 – *There Is More Love Somewhere*

Benediction
