



**Pride Sunday**  
**Fourth Sunday after Pentecost**

*June 28, 2020*  
*Zoom Worship*

**WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD**

PRELUDE

[Adagio](#)  
Performed by Sara Davis Buechner

Péter Wolf  
(See Worship Notes.)

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Eric Sherlock

WORDS OF FRAMING

Rev. Todd Atkins-Whitley

One: How long, O Lord?

**All: How long must your lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people hide,  
afraid to come out to wholeness?**

One: How long, O Lord?

**All: How long must our Black, Latinx, and Indigenous siblings  
bear the scars our legacy of white supremacy and racism have  
left on this nation, on this world?**

One: How long, O Lord?

**All: Before the lament we carry in our souls is heard and comforted?**

One: Divine Beloved, we have trusted in your steadfast love.

**All: Our hearts have rejoiced at the promise of your mercy and compassion.**

One: This Pride Sunday, let us sing to the Lord, Our God.

**All: Let us raise the songs of our ancestors,  
committing to walk in justice and mercy,  
until all God's people are free.**

GATHERING PRAYER

Barb & Judy  
DeBarger-Gestring

One: We are grateful for the gift of our lives and the gift of people in our lives.

**All: Each of us is created with dignity and worth.**

One: We are called to love one another and to do nothing to others  
that we would find hateful to ourselves.

**All: We honor the many ways that people live and love.**

One: Our common life is enriched when queer, transgender, bisexual, lesbian,  
and gay people of all races can come out—sharing the gifts of their  
sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, and cultural identities.

**All: True justice flourishes when all people can live and flourish.**

One: We suffer when LGBTQ+ people are oppressed, excluded, or shamed  
by religious people who overlook the fundamental call to love one another.

**All: Love does not exclude. We are all worthy.**

One: We suffer when LGBTQ+ people of color experience significantly harsher marginalization  
and discrimination as a result of the intersections of sexuality, gender, and race.

**All: Love calls us to action. We will not remain silent.**

One: May we work to build a world where all people are celebrated and loved.

**All: We celebrate sexual, gender, and cultural diversity  
as a blessing that enriches us all. Amen**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: Peace be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Let us greet one another with waves and smiles  
and pass the peace of Christ using the chat feature.

OPENING HYMN

*Ours the Journey*

Julian B. Rush  
(See Worship Notes and page 9.)

<sup>1</sup>In the midst of new dimensions, in the face of changing ways,  
who will lead the pilgrim peoples wandering their separate ways?

Refrain:

God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar,  
we your people, ours the journey now and ever, now and ever, now and evermore.

<sup>3</sup>We are man and we are woman, all genders, old and young,  
all a gift in their creations, each a love song to be sung.

<sup>4</sup>We are Black and we are Asian, Indigenous, Hispanic, White,  
we a rainbow coalition, all of value in your sight.

MODERN LESSON

[What God Wants](#)

Tiq Milan  
(See Worship Notes.)

SCRIPTURE LESSON

[Ezekiel 37:1–14](#)

The Luther family

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Pastor Todd

SERMON

*The Resurrection of 'Pride'*

Senior Minister  
Carmarion D. Anderson  
(See Worship Notes.)

ANTHEM

[We Shall Overcome](#)

Performed by Christian Dante White and Nick Burroughs

arr. Moses Hogan  
(See Worship Notes.)

<sup>1</sup>We shall overcome,  
we shall overcome,  
we shall overcome someday;  
Oh, deep in my heart I do believe,  
we shall overcome someday.

<sup>2</sup>We'll walk hand in hand,  
we'll walk hand in hand,  
we'll walk hand in hand someday;  
Oh, deep in my heart I do believe,  
we shall overcome someday.

<sup>3</sup>We shall all be free,  
we shall all be free,  
we shall all be free someday;  
Oh, deep in my heart I do believe,  
we shall overcome someday.

<sup>4</sup>We are not afraid,  
we are not afraid,  
we are not afraid today;  
Oh, deep in my heart I do believe,  
we are not afraid today.

<sup>5</sup>We shall live in peace,  
we shall live in peace,  
we shall live in peace someday;  
Oh, deep in my heart I do believe,  
we shall overcome someday.

TIME OF PRAYER

Pastor Eric

Sharing our Joys and Concerns

*(Email your requests to Pastor Eric or type them in the chat window.)*

**All: Hear our prayer**

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (using these words or the words most familiar to you)

**Our Loving God, who is in heaven, hallowed be your name.**

**Your kingdom come, your 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 yours is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

TIME OF GIVING

Tim Booher & Bill Armstrong

Invitation to Giving

*During this time of virtual worship, we invite you to give online: <http://bit.ly/donatetodcc>.*

Special Offering: [\*The Knights & Orchids Society of Alabama\*](#). (See Worship Notes.)

Offertory

*Somewhere Over the Rainbow*

Mary-Marie Deauclaire

Doxology

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

Offertory Prayer

LITANY OF RENEWAL

Rev. Melissa Tumaneng  
& Steve Paroli

One: *Our mission is to be a Christian faith community that accepts all persons, supports them in seeking deeper meaning in their lives, and prepares them spiritually and intellectually to make a difference in the lives of their families, community, work, and world.*

**All: We affirm the dignity, value, and sacredness of all of God's people—people of diverse race, gender, sexual orientation, family status, economic condition, and physical, mental, and emotional abilities.**

One: *All are invited to participate in the worship, life, work, and service of this church. We affirm that all are beloved by God and empowered by the Holy Spirit. We affirm the family in all its diverse forms, and we affirm all loving and committed relationships.*

**All: We celebrate the vision of a faith community willing to do the necessary work to ensure that Danville Congregational Church is a welcoming place for all of God's rainbow-hued children. This is who we have become and are becoming.**

One: *We are called to love our neighbors and to act as agents of reconciliation and wholeness. We welcome and value all God's people.*

**All: We renew our commitment to love our neighbors as ourselves—our transgender neighbor, our lesbian neighbor, our gay neighbor, our bisexual neighbor, our gender-variant, gender-queer, and gender non-conforming neighbor, and our straight, cisgender neighbor too.**

One: *We acknowledge the reality that LGBTQ people face higher rates of poverty, stigma, marginalization, sexual assault, and hate-motivated violence and that race, gender identity and expression, age, immigration status, HIV status, and other factors significantly compound the discrimination and marginalization experienced by LGBTQ persons.*

**All: As a church of extravagant welcome, we commit to not only continue to welcome all people into full life and affirm the ministry of persons of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions but also to work against the systems that oppress and marginalize all people, particularly the system of white supremacy.**

One: *May it be so. Amen.*

Words in italic are from DCC's 1999  
Open and Affirming Statement.

<sup>5</sup>Through the years of human struggle, walk a people long despised,  
gay, trans, lesbian together, fighting to be realized.

Refrain:

God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar,  
we your people, ours the journey now and ever, now and ever, now and evermore.

<sup>7</sup>Should the threats of dire predictions cause us to withdraw in pain,  
may your blazing phoenix spirit resurrect the church again.

BENEDICTION

Minister Carmarion

POSTLUDE

## Worship Notes

Today's worship leadership was provided by **members of DCC who identify as LGBTQ+**. DCC is a richer, more complete community because of their presence and participation. We are grateful for their contributions today and in the life of our church.



**On the cover:** In June 2017, the city of Philadelphia adopted a revised version of the flag designed by the marketing firm Tierney that adds black and brown stripes to the top of the standard six-color Pride flag, to draw attention to issues of people of color within the LGBTQ community. Since then, communities around the world—including, most recently, Dublin, Livermore, and San Ramon!—have adopted this particular flag to honor this call for diversity and solidarity with people of color.

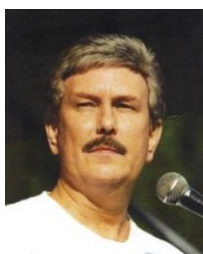
[Danville is flying the [six-color original flag](#) for [the first time this year](#)!] The Philly Pride flag is an inspiration for the Progress Pride Flag designed in 2018 by Portland-based artist Daniel Quasar. This version of the flag foregrounds the causes of trans people (the colors of the trans flag) and queer people of color (particularly trans) who are the most marginalized among the LGBTQ community. “The inclusion of the

additional stripes means placing emphasis on voices that need to be heard, especially now even more so than two years ago when I originally made the flag,” Quasar said. “Our world is so charged right now and the voices who have been screaming for years are getting louder and louder. We cannot ignore that and must make space for them to be heard. The flag was my way of saying we as a community need to step back and listen.” [Read more here](#). Further, many activists note, we would not have Pride were it not for the activism of transgender people of color. ([Read this for more information on that.](#)) [Note: Advocates have thusfar been unable to convince the Castro business district to adopt either of the more inclusive versions.]



Noted for her musical command, cosmopolitan artistry, and visionary independence, **Sara Davis Buechner** is one of the most original concert pianists of our time. Lauded for her “intelligence, integrity and all-encompassing technical prowess” (*New York Times*), “thoughtful artistry in the full service of music” (*Washington Post*), and “astounding virtuosity” (*Philippine Star*), Japan’s *InTune* magazine sums up: “Buechner has no superior.” As a prominent figure in music and proud transgender woman, Sara also appears at LGBTQ events to speak about her experience transitioning from David

to Sara Davis, at age 39. Feeling trapped but obligated to play the part of David, Sara felt herself depressed and suicidal—until she found the strength to become who she was always meant to be. You can read more about Sara at <http://saradavisbuechner.com/about/> and <https://savvytokyo.com/sara-davis-buechner-on-being-a-transgender-concert-pianist/>.



Today, we sing five verses of Julian Rush's seven-verse *Ours the Journey*, a song (lyrics and tune) he wrote in the years immediately following his ouster from the church he was serving upon coming out as gay. The song, which can be viewed as a prayer, was first presented at the 1985 Rocky Mountain Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church at which the first Japanese-American United Methodist bishop was commissioned. This text celebrates diversity with the labels of gender, race, age, and sexual orientation named in the various stanzas. We have adapted the lyrics slightly to make space between the binaries of "man" and "woman" and by including *trans* in verse 5; we have also substituted *Indigenous* for *Indian*. The song is rarely presented in its full seven-verse form (only five verses are included in our hymnal) which we have included in this bulletin. We concur with the Discipleship Ministries of the United Methodist Church who [wrote in 2018](#), "*In the Midst of New Dimensions* is just as relevant today as it was at its creation, now thirty-three years ago. The first stanza begins 'In the midst of new dimensions, in the face of changing ways', which certainly describes the present world. The prayers of many Christians include the sentiments of Rush's text, and God still guides all of God's people." For a deeper look at this hymn, [read this article from the Hymn Society in the United States and Canada](#). You can read more about Rev. Julian in [this biography published this month by the LGBTQ Religious Archives Network](#).



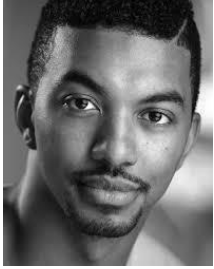
**Tiq Milan** is a writer, public speaker, activist, and strategic media consultant. He is currently a national spokesperson for [GLAAD](#) and the former senior media strategist of national news at GLAAD. Prior to his current roles, he was a mentor and teacher at the [Hetrick-Martin Institute](#), an LGBTQ youth nonprofit organization in NYC. As a Public Speaker and Thought Leader, Tiq shares his story of being transgender and how that informs his views on masculinity, race and gender. He travels throughout North America leading discussions on healthy modes of masculinity, inclusive leadership and creating cultures of consent. He has lectured at several universities including Harvard, Stanford, and Brown on the importance of inclusion as tool of innovation and outlines concrete strategies for productive engagement. He recently participated in Day one of the [Black Queer Town Hall](#) on June 19, 2020 and is the author of this June 9, 2020 NBC News article "[When Black lives matter, Black trans people must be freed from discrimination and violence.](#)" [Watch Tiq's TEDWomen talk presented with his wife Kim Katrin Milan here](#). [Read more about Tiq here](#).



**Senior Minister Carmarion D. Anderson** is a vibrant and visible trans woman of color with a passion for inclusion and equality for all. Carmarion is the Alabama State Director with the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) under the [Project One America initiative](#)—a comprehensive, multi-hear campaign to dramatically expand LGBTQ equality in the South. Carmarion becomes the first trans person of color to serve in a leadership role with HRC in the organization's history. Before joining HRC and relocating to Alabama, Carmarion worked in the field of Public Health and Education, managing both local and national prevention initiatives focusing on HIV/AIDS and other health disparities that impact marginalized communities. Carmarion is the founder and previous Executive Director for [Black Transwomen, Inc.](#), which is the first national non-profit organization with a 501 (c)(3) with a programmatic focus to uplift the voices, hearts, and souls of black trans women and in alliance with the Black Trans Advocacy Coalition. Carmarion also brings a wealth of experience in faith spaces, currently serving as the National Co-Minister and South Regional Coordinator for TransSaints ministry of The Fellowship of Affirming Ministries (TFAM). Carmarion is recently in her 16-year serving as an associate elder/minister at the Living Faith Covenant Church, located in Dallas, Texas. Carmarion was born and reared in Dallas, Texas, with family roots from Natchez, Mississippi. Carmarion is a wife, a parent of one son, and a grandparent to three adorable grandchildren.



The gospel song ***We Shall Overcome*** has become one of the most widely known civil rights anthems framing all kinds of marches, protests, and gatherings of people placing their hope in the promise of justice realized. The song has been referenced by a variety of civil rights leaders of all ages, from Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. to President Barack Obama. In Rev. King's final sermon on March 31, 1968, just days before his death: "There's a little song that we sing in our movement down in the South. I don't know if you've heard it," King told the Memphis crowd. "You know, I've joined hands so often with students and others behind jail bars singing it: 'We shall overcome.' Sometimes we've had tears in our eyes when we joined together to sing it, but we still decided to sing it: 'We shall overcome.' Oh,



before this victory's won, some will have to get thrown in jail some more, but we shall overcome." [Read \*The Atlantic's\* fascinating history of this civil rights anthem.](#)

The performance presented during worship today was [performed on June 19, 2020 during day 1 of the Black Queer Town Hall](#) by openly gay Broadway stars [Christian Dante White](#) (*My Fair Lady*) and [Nick Rashad Burroughs](#) (*Tina: The Tina Turner Musical*).

In the context of 2020 America, *We Shall Overcome* frames the hopes of queer Black people and other people of color within both the gay rights movement and the movement for Black lives.

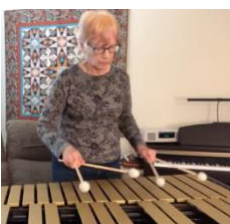


In addition to our regular gifts and offerings, today we have the opportunity to bless the work of an organization in Alabama striving to support the Queer and Trans community there. [The Knights & Orchids Society, or TKO](#), strives to build the power of the TLGB community for African Americans throughout rural areas in Alabama and across the south, to obtain our dream of justice and equality through group economics, education, leadership development, and organizing cultural work. TKO was founded and

is led by Black, queer, transgender, and gender non-conforming (TGNC) people, including many who are living with HIV, are youth, and are low-income people in rural and isolated areas of Alabama. In addition to helping supply funds so TKO can provide the basic needs of additional food, diapers, depends, cleaning supplies for black rural Alabamians, [TKO is purchasing the building their organization is housed in](#). Permanent ownership of their building, located within an opportunity zone at the foot of the historic Edmund Pettus Bridge, will provide TKO a sustainable place to train and skill-up the next generation of TGNC leaders.

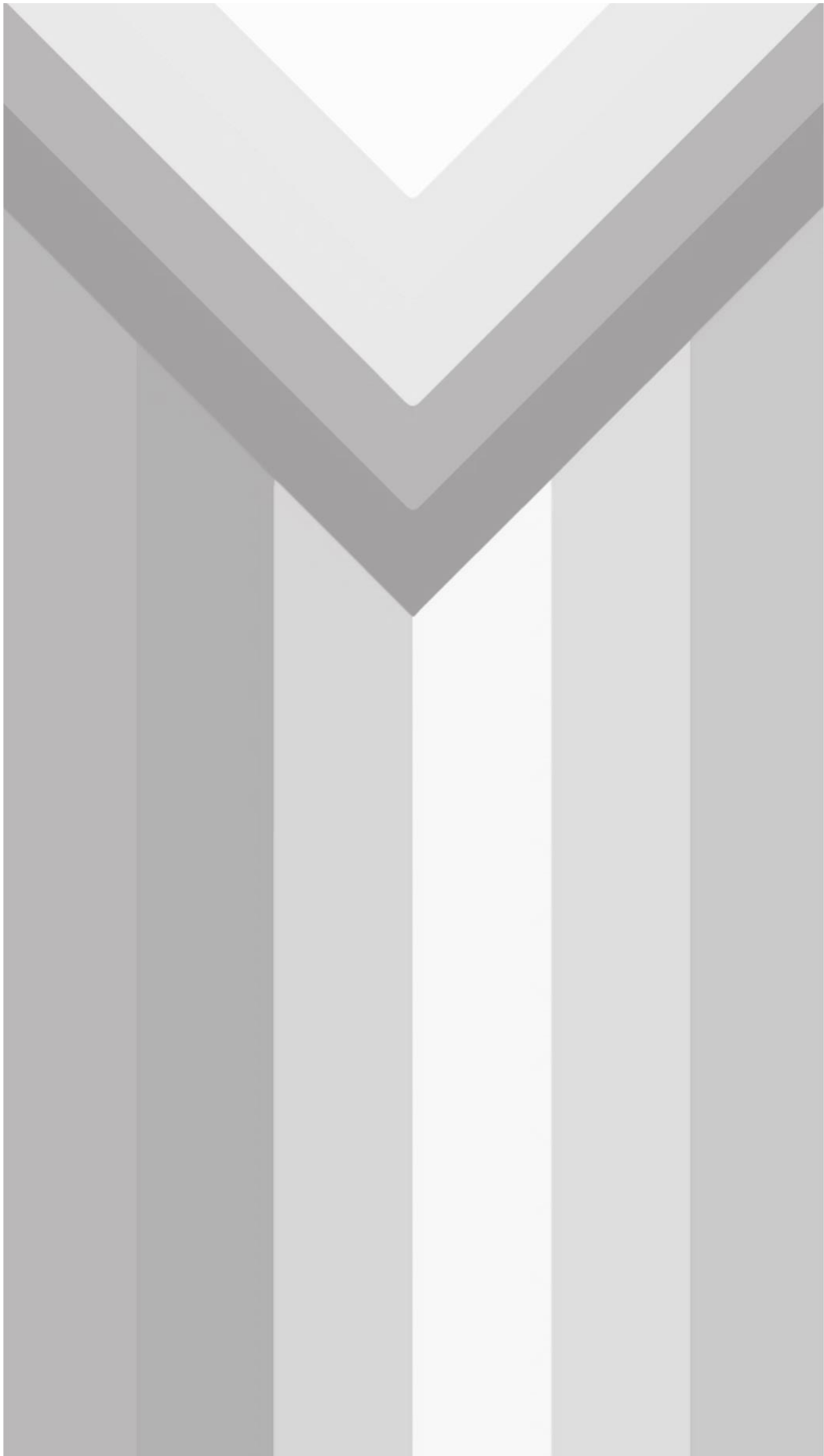
Quentin Bell, TKO's executive director said, "Black Trans and LGBTQ folks have rarely had opportunities to define space, acquire ownership, and invest. We have always had to borrow or create spaces (without ownership) that empower, uplift, and unite. Imagine the power we would hold and the work we could accomplish if we owned land where we could build and invest. Each generation should not have to keep starting from zero. Ownership is ground zero and the foundation upon which future generations will begin to build and sustain generational wealth. If you're able to give, I would deeply appreciate your contribution. Any amount makes a difference!"

TKO needs just under \$3,000 to reach their goal of \$75,000 to own their building! You can give to this effort by going to the [DCC web site, clicking the donate button](#), and entering **TKO Society** in the "Other" column beside your donation amount. More information about TKO is in your bulletin.



The classic ***Somewhere Over the Rainbow***, composed by Harold Arlen with lyrics by Yip Harburg, was written for the 1939 film *The Wizard of Oz*. The song, performed by Judy Garland, received the 1940 Academy Award for Best Original Song. This morning we are treated to **Mary-Marie Deauclaire's** rendition of this classic, recorded in her home last month to not only help her during this time of quarantine but as a gift to DCC today. She says she loves playing this song "because it's about daring to dream and when you hear it your troubles melt away."

Color and display your own Pride flag!





# Ours the journey

Julian B. Rush

1. In the midst of new di - men - sions, in the face of chang - ing ways,  
2. Through the flood of starv - ing peo - ples, war - ring fac - tions and des - pair,  
3. We are man and we are wo - man, all per - sua - sions, old and young,  
4. We are Black and we are A - sian, In - di - an, His - pan - ic, White,  
5. Through the years of hu - man strug - gle, walk a peo - ple long des - pised,  
6. As we stand a world di - vi - ded by our own self - seek - ing schemes,  
7. Should the threats of dire pre - dict - ions cause us to with - draw in pain,  
who will lead the pil - grim peop - les wan - der - ing their sep - arate ways?  
who will lift the ol - ive branch - es? Who will light the flame of care?  
each a gift in your cre - a - tions, each a love song to be sung.  
we a rain - bow co - a - li - tion, all of val - ue in your sight.  
gays and les - bi - ans to - geth - er fight - ing to be re - al - ized.  
grant that we, your glob - al vil - lage, might en - vi - sion wid - er dreams.  
may your blaz - ing phoe - nix spir - it res - ur - rect the church a - gain.  
God of rain - bow, fier - y pil - lar, lead - ing where the ea - gles soar, we your peo - ple,  
ours the jour - ney now and ev - er, now and ev - er, now and ev - er - more.

Words and music © 1985 Julian B. Rush.  
Used by permission of the composer.

OURS THE JOURNEY  
87.87 with Refrain

## Announcements

If you would like to submit a prayer concern or joy for next Sunday's Zoom Worship, please email it to Pastor Eric at [eric@danvillechurch.org](mailto:eric@danvillechurch.org).

To keep up-to-date on news and announcements during this time of social distancing, **please read your email** from DCC thoroughly! All communication related to church news and events will be communicated via email!

### Becoming an Anti-Racist Church

Many people in our congregation have reached out expressing a desire to participate in anti-racism work that has emerged from a surge of action across the country following the murder of George Floyd. As a community of people who strive to be God's love in the world, we invite community members at DCC to join in this work.

One of the first steps in this learning journey is gathering a group of people who feel called to join in this work to serve as leadership in this journey. We invite anyone who feels called to join in this work, *no matter where you are in your learning journey*, [to fill out this form indicating your interest in being part of this leadership group](#), and explaining why you feel called to this work and what your strengths are that you wish to share with the team.

To emphasize, this is a space to create plans for how to advance anti-racism work in our community, and to learn, but this is not a space to debate the existence of racism. In being part of this team, there is no expectation that you will start with all the answers, nor that you need to be at the same point in your learning journey as the other team members, but you do need to be committed to un-learning systems of white supremacy, to compassionately hold space for others, and to be vulnerable and willing to question your own internal biases.

Through a commitment to this learning journey, to be God's love in the world, and a long term vision, we can make our community a safer and more loving place for all. If you have any questions, wonderments, and would like to learn more feel free to reach out to [Fiona Klassen](#), [Pastor Eric](#), or [Pastor Todd](#).



### Outreach Commission Gathering Today

Outreach Co-commissioners Laura Beaver and Doug Leich invite all with an interest in reimagining DCC's Outreach programs in this time of social distancing, virtual meetings, and protests against racial inequality, to our Outreach Commission 2020-21 kick-off meeting **this Sunday at 2 PM** using the Zoom link below. Please join us and share your ideas on how we can help people in our communities who are in need. All are welcome. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81809501925> or join by phone: 669 900 6833, Meeting ID: **818 0950 1925**.

### Church-Wide Conversation **Today** on Ava DuVernay's **13th**



Those who joined our Netflix Party Screening of Ava DuVernay's documentary *13th* or who have watched it on their own are invited to join us for a one-hour conversation about what we experienced or learned in the course of experiencing this film. We will gather for an introduction and prayer and then will participate in breakout rooms facilitated by Fiona Klassen, Pastor Eric, and Pastor Todd. This will also serve as our Youth Group convening for this week. ([You can watch the film for free on YouTube.](#))

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/683743275?pwd=anpYWHJJVUY1L3habEFUTnBRV1pPdZ09>

or call 669-900-6833, Meeting ID **683 743 275**, passcode **322**

## Upcoming Virtual Gatherings

*To lessen the impact of isolation during this season of social distancing, you are invited to join these opportunities for community and spiritual practice.*

- **Church-Wide Conversation on 13th, Sunday** at 5:00pm  
<https://zoom.us/j/683743275?pwd=anpYWHJJVUY1L3habEFUTnBRV1pPdZ09>  
or by Zoom app: **683 743 275**, password **322**.
- **Mid-Day Zoom Devotional**, Wednesdays at Noon  
<https://zoom.us/j/547683580?pwd=V2FjVksvNW9BSkNWOW4vcEttZGo5UT09>  
or by Zoom app: **547 683 580**, password **322** or by phone: dial **669-900-6833**  
and enter **547 683 580** as the Meeting ID and **322** as the password.
- **Worship at DCC**, Sundays at 9:30am  
<https://zoom.us/j/492975948?pwd=bJlJqZTNpNGo3S1o0YkNFM3FWQ1dIQ09>  
or by Zoom app: **492 975 948**, password **322** or by phone: dial **669-900-6833**

*There will be no Family Devotional until further notice. But watch for news coming soon about opportunities for our children, youth, and families!*

### **Ministers—The Entire Congregation**

#### **Church Staff**

**The Rev. Eric Sherlock**, Senior Pastor  
**The Rev. Todd Atkins-Whitley**, Associate Pastor  
**John Kendall Bailey**, Music Director  
**Mary-Marie Deauclaire**, Handbell Director  
**Elizabeth Setlak-von Thury**, Office Manager  
**Nicole Doyle**, Nursery Attendant

The **DCC Prayer Team** prays daily for those in need of prayers.  
If you would like to submit a prayer request for yourself or someone else,  
contact a pastor or send an email to [prayers@danvillechurch.org](mailto:prayers@danvillechurch.org).  
All requests are kept confidential unless specified otherwise.

**Kelley Mangels**, Dayspring Preschool Director  
[dayspringpreschool.org](http://dayspringpreschool.org)



### **Danville Congregational Church**

*United Church of Christ*

989 San Ramon Valley Blvd., Danville, CA 94526-4020

Phone: (925) 837-6944

[danvillechurch.org](http://danvillechurch.org)

