

Movements For Justice

January 19th
2025



Rev. Dr. Tanya Sadagopan, Minister

South Congregational Church, UCC
27 Pleasant St. Concord, NH 03301
603-224-2521
www.southchurchconcord.org

Welcome to South Congregational Church, United Church of Christ! Whoever you are, whatever your faith tradition, whatever creed you profess, whatever your age, ability, race, sexual orientation or gender expression: You Are Welcome Here!

PRELUDE

My Lord What a Morning

arr. Larry Shackley
Richard Nelson, piano

WORDS OF WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Lynne Morgan

Welcome to Worship. We are an Open and Affirming and Racial Justice-Seeking congregation. Today we forward our Christian commitment to racial justice by honoring the life and work of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

We strive to honor all people who are created in God's image. In Christ there are no distinctions based on race, gender, economic status, or nationality, as Paul teaches us in Galatians. Our faith calls us to live out those truths. The hard-won freedoms of the Civil Rights Movement of the 1950's and 1960's continue to call us toward movements for justice and equality in contemporary calls for love of all God's people.

We honor the work of people in the Black Lives Matter movement, the work toward immigrant justice, and fair wages for all people across race and gender.

Martin Luther King, whose life we honor every January, is only one of the many leaders whose faith compelled them to act. We know it takes thousands of people to make a movement, not just the actions of one person.

People of faith within congregations can unite today like they did many years ago—striving to continue the ministries of Jesus, whose life was centered on God’s love and economic justice for people denied those opportunities.

We are one people, diverse and courageous, standing for love. We are grateful for the many leaders who continue this important Christian work in our community today.

*HYMN #539

Won’t You Let Me Be Your Servant?

(v. 1, 3-4, 6)

UNISON PRAYER

Lynne Morgan

Holy One, we are grateful for leaders who work for human rights. Christ reminds us that those who hunger and thirst for righteousness will be filled, those who seek peace will be called Your children, and those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness will receive the kin-dom of heaven. Forgive us the ways we have stepped aside and let others call for justice. Inspire us to do what we can to be part of Your movements for love, compassion, and justice in our world. As Christ did, so shall we follow. We are his disciples. Grant us courage for this moment to do Your will. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

We invite you to share the Peace of Christ by turning to the people around your seat and offering a nod, a wave, or a prayerful bow during this season of increased cases of respiratory viruses. We encourage you to join us for fellowship after church to reconnect with one another and meet today's visitors.

CHORAL ANTHEM

Beloved, Let Us Love One Another
by Pepper Choplin

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 4:16-21

Lynne Morgan

A MESSAGE FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 4:22-30

SERMON

Prophetic Cliffs: Movements For Justice
of Jesus and MLK

*HYMN #593

Lift Every Voice and Sing (v. 1, 3)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father-Mother in Heaven, hallowed be Your name.
Your kingdom come, Your will be done on Earth as it is
in Heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our
debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into**

temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

AN INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

Virtual offering plate: **bit.ly/SouthUCC**. Other options include using the “Donate” button on the website, or mailing/dropping off a check to the office. Thinking of remembering your church in your estate? Please contact Planned Giving.



OFFERTORY

Great Day!

arr. Bill Ingram
Memorial Bells

***SUNG RESPONSE**

Praise God from who all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

***HYMN #570**

We Shall Overcome (v. 1, 4)

***BENEDICTION**

And God is able to provide you
with every blessing in abundance,
so that by always having enough of everything,
you may share abundantly
in every good work.

-2 Corinthians 9:8

POSTLUDE

Spiritual

arr. Douglas Wagner

**Please stand in body or spirit.*

*Flowers are donated by Bill and Betty Jacob
in remembrance of their parents.*



Minister: Rev. Dr. Tanya Sadagopan

Pianist: Abigail Charbeneau

Music Director: Sue Berlenbach

Memorial Bells Director: Carlene Ruesenberg

Zoom Technician: Walt Irvine

Today's Participants

Ushers: Lorens Jorgensen and Chris Simmers

Lay Leader: Lynne Morgan

Counting and Deposits: Chris Simmers and Janice Dutton

Assistive Listening Technician: Janet Zeller

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Moment for Mission: The Faith In Action Ministry will be collecting diapers of all sizes during the month of January to give to **Waypoint NH** to distribute to families with young children. Waypoint NH supports an average of 65-75 families each month with free diapers and wipes, which are available to any family with children 5 years old and under. **Donations can be left in the labeled boxes located just outside the Sanctuary at the church's side entrance.**

UCC California Wildfires 2025 Appeal: The recent wildfires in LA County have destroyed more than 12,000 homes, businesses, schools, and churches. The UCC is sending prayers to those affected and collecting donations for disaster support and recovery efforts. Please visit <https://support.ucc.org/california-wildfires-2025> to donate.

MLK, Jr. Community Celebration: The NH Martin Luther King Coalition presents *Many Paths, One Dream: Intersectional Perspectives on MLK's Legacy* this **Monday, January 20th, from 12:50pm-4pm** at Memorial High

School in Manchester, NH. Doors open at 11:45am.

Donations will benefit the Goffstown Network Food Pantry.

Full program information can be found at *mlknh.org*.

Midwinter Musical Merriment and Fundraiser: Join South Church for some midwinter cheer with live music by Martha and Friends and by Cara! Take a musical tour from Hollywood's Golden Age to Celtic shores for this South Church fundraiser, food, and fellowship event. This **Saturday, January 25th from 4-6pm** at South Church, with entry by donation. For more information, please contact Leanne Tigert at *lmtigert@gmail.com*.

New Class Startup With Pastor Tanya: For the month of February, join Pastor Tanya for an “anytime, anywhere” book study via Facebook group on *The Black Christ* by Kelly Brown Douglas, which explores the origins of the Black slave church and its implications for contemporary Christian Nationalism.

To participate in this 4 week study, please email Pastor Tanya (*revtanya@southchurchconcord.org*) **by Monday, January 27th**. You will need a Facebook account to

participate. Acquire or order the book from your local library, digital platform, or local bookstore.

Family Promise Week: South Church and Temple Beth Jacob are partnering with Family Promise to host families experiencing short-term homelessness due to an unplanned/catastrophic event in their lives. From **February 2nd to 9th**, volunteers are needed at South Church to greet and assist families and to prepare meals. For more info and to sign up, please contact Peggy Scott at (978)258-8275.

Learn to Play Handbells!: Do you love to hear the handbells in the worship service? Have you ever thought, “I’d like to try that, but I don’t have time”? Well, if you have 30 minutes after today’s service, you can do it! Stay a little later in the Sanctuary after worship and find out more from Memorial Bells Director Carlene!

Parking on Sundays: Many thanks to our neighboring businesses who graciously permit us to use their private parking lots on Sunday morning. These locations are:

Parker Academy - Lot is directly west and adjacent to the chapel.

NH Charitable Fund - Lot is on Chesley Street, behind their building.

Riverbend - Lot is behind their building, directly across from the church (Pleasant Street).

This parking is for **Sunday worship services only**. Please do not use their lots at any other time. Thank you!

Pastoral Care Phone: 603-513-8331

Assistive Listening: Having difficulty hearing in the sanctuary? An Assistive Listening Assistant is at the back of the sanctuary and would be glad to help.

REMINDER: Using your hearing aids and “Listen Everywhere” smartphone app? Turn your Hearing Aid volume **DOWN** and Phone volume **UP**.

Office Hours: 9:00am-5:00pm,
Monday through Friday.

**The office will be CLOSED Monday, Jan. 20th
for MLK Day.**

If you have Prayer Requests, please fill out the yellow bookmarks in the pew in front of you. These can be placed in the basket next to the pulpit.