



GRACE UNITED CHURCH
Worship Service – 5th after Epiphany
Black History Month - Week 2
February 9, 2025 at 10:30 a.m.

Lead Minister: Rev. Dr. Thomas Shin
Lay Presider: Portia Mensah-Bonsu

We welcome guest musicians:
Trumpeter Erasmus Hilland & Drummer Amadou Kienou

GATHERING TO WORSHIP GOD

Gathering Music: Sweet, Sweet Spirit Doris Akers
Band Prelude: Blessed Assurance F. Crosby & P. Knapp
Welcome, Announcements & Traditional Land Acknowledgment

Call to Worship:

One: We come to worship today determined to follow the Christ
All: who calls us to a new understanding of fishing.
One: We come to worship with open hearts and minds
All: and a soul ablaze for justice and equality.
One: We come to meet God and each other.
All: Let us worship in love and understanding.

Procession: African Drumming by Amadou Kienou

Lighting the Christ Candle: Mirabelle & Miriam

Black National Anthem: Led by Rev Shin and the Choir
Lift Every Voice and Sing Verse 2

Greetings

Opening Prayer

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Praise and Worship 1: Led by the Choir
Every Praise Hezekiah Walker

Time for Youth & Young at Heart

Video: Wangari Maaathai

Message: What Defines Who We Are

Song: I'm Gonna Shout, Shout Out My Love

MV #183

Led by Andy Keay & Laurie Cunningham

Children leave for Sunday School

TO DISCOVER THE WORD OF GOD FOR TODAY

African Poem: 'Africa' by David Diop Read by Matthew Mayers
Scripture Reading: Isaiah 40: 28-31 NIV
Barron Chirisa (Shona)
Joy Onyeka Ijezie-Ogunniyi (English)
One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.
All: Thanks be to God!

Choir Anthem: He's Worthy, God's Worthy Sandra Crouch

Reflection: Job Amankwah-Nkansah

TO RESPOND IN FAITH AND HOPE

Offering Invitation

Offertory/Special music: Cindy Ciarallo
My God Is Real Kenneth Morris

Offering Response: We Give You But Your Own VU #542

Offertory Prayer

Prayer of People

Praise and Worship 2: Led by Kay Bingham and the Choir
10,000 Reasons (Bless The Lord) Jonas Myrin and Matt Redman

THE CHURCH SCATTERS TO LIVE ITS FAITH IN THE WORLD

Commissioning and Benediction
May the God of Hope Go with us VU #424 (1vs. & chorus)

Postlude: Soon and Very Soon Andraé Crouch