THIS WEEK (and Beyond!) AT SPC: January 15 - 21, 2023

NO TEACH THE PREACHER THIS WEEK

Saturday, 7:30 a.m., Men's Breakfast (FH): Breakfast at 7:30, followed by discussion around 8:00

Sunday, January 22, 9:30 a.m. Sunday Seminar (FH and Zoom): Adult Education begins discussion of Brian McLaren's Do I Stay Christian? A Guide for the Doubters, Disappointed and Disillusioned.

Sunday, January 29, 12:30 p.m. New Member Class (FH): For anyone interested in exploring membership at SPC, this overview will last about an hour. Sign up through the church office if you need childcare and/or a simple lunch. If you wish to join SPC but are unable to attend this class, contact the church office for an alternative option.

Arise Your Light Is Come!

Connection and Protection in the Light of Love January 8 - February 19, 2023

> As the light of hope emerges from the comfort of darkness, our worship calls us to rekindle the vision of caring, inclusive community.

January 15 (Racial Justice Sunday): Light of a Nation

January 22 (Ordination/Installation Sunday): Vision Casting

January 29: Blessing and Gratitude

February 5 (Communion Sunday): An Upright Light

February 12 (SouperBowl/New Members Sunday): Then and Now

February 19 (Transfiguration Sunday/Palms to Ashes): Guest Preacher, Rev. Joel Blunk

Worship Planning Team: Tim Artlip, Diana Eldridge, Ellie Lloyd, Debbie Romano, Rie Wilson

Prayer for Racial Justice

O God, who has created your children to be free, we attest in word and deed that you are our God and we are your people. From our earliest days as the people whom you intend to be free, O God, you have called us forth from self-seeking bondage, comfort, complacency, and complaint, to freeing and redeeming action for justice everywhere in the world.

You are our freeing God, and we would be your free and freeing people.

O God of the Exodus and the Burning Bush, of the Prophets and of Jesus, we hear your powerful calling to be your servants in the service of all those who are oppressed. At every turn we hear your voice in the cries of the poor, the hungry, the imprisoned, and the broken, for you made yourself one with those who seek justice, freedom, and peace. We share a vision, a promise, and a yearning for the day of your reign, O God. You are our servant God, and we would be your serving people.

O God, Our Sustainer, search our hearts and reveal to us our sinfulness, all the ways that we contribute to injustice and to self-destroying bondage. Give us deep courage to find the true path of your way, ready to give our very selves as living sacrifices for your will. We have heard your calling. Hear us now as we make our pledge.

You are our God and we are your people. We pledge ourselves now to pursue relentlessly that living, breathing justice which transforms persons and peoples. To your will for justice we recommit ourselves and pledge ourselves, our funds, our actions. Through Christ we pray. Amen.