



An Underground Railroad Celebration

Saturday, February 10, 2007

Order of Worship

Welcome and Introduction

Introit

The Talking Drums

Julia Pickett Kathryn Lewis
Donna Manocchio Michael Bower

Prelude

Liberte – “*The Gospel Train*”
RHCC Drum Choir

Call to Worship

Leader: *Tonight we will learn to appreciate the sacrifice and dedication of the conductors of the Underground Railroad and the safe houses leading to Ohio and Canada.*

People: **Praise the Lord!**

Leader: *For the signs of JACOB’S LADDER showing the way to begin and the MONKEY WRENCH to gather strength and courage.*

People: **Praise the Lord!**

Leader: *For the CARPENTER’S WHEEL of Jesus giving support and hope.*

People: **Praise the Lord!**

Leader: *For the BASKET of needed supplies, the SAILBOAT to cross to Canada and the WAGON WHEEL chariot to carry us home.*

People: **Praise the Lord!**

Leader: *For the LOG CABIN in Cleveland called Hope, and the CROSSROADS in Detroit called Midnight.*

People: **Praise the Lord!**

Leader: *For the SHOO-FLY conductor who provided the BOW TIES.*

People: **Praise the Lord!**

Leader: *For the paths of the BEAR’S PAW, the FLYING GEESE, the DRUNKARD’S PATH and the BIRDS IN THE AIR to lead the way.*

People: **Praise the Lord!**

Leader: *For the direction of the NORTH STAR, the Star of Bethlehem leading the Wisemen and all of us to Jesus and freedom*

All: ***Praise the Lord and Alleluia!***

Prayer of Invocation

Gracious God, tonight we marvel at the courage of those involved in the Underground Railroad. Some are known to us in history, but most names are forever lost to us. Tonight we marvel at the ingenious ways these brave people learned to communicate their urgent messages. Tonight we marvel at the birth of the first civil rights movement in America. Tonight we marvel at the call for all of us to continue that movement both here and now, and around the world forever. Amen.

Hymn

When Israel Was In Egypt Land
Pilgrim Hymnal 428

Scripture

Psalm 91

The Gift of Music

Swing Low, Sweet Chariot
Runaway Harmony

Refrain: Swing low sweet chariot, comin' for to carry me home.
Oh swing low, sweet chariot, comin' for to carry me home.

I looked over Jordan, and what did I see?
A band of angels comin' after me!

Refrain

If you get there before I do –
Jess tell my friends that I'm a-comin too.

Refrain

I'm sometimes up, and sometimes down.
But still my soul feels heavenly bound.

Refrain

A Reflection

The Meaning of the Quilt Squares

The Sacrament of Communion

Communion Hymn

Let Us Break Bread Together
Pilgrim Hymnal 228

Celebrating Local History

The Underground Railroad in Rocky Hill

The Gift of Music

“Steal Away”

Runaway Harmony

Steal away, steal away, steal away to Jesus.

Steal away. Steal away home.

I ain't got long to stay here.

My Lord, He calls me, He calls me by the thunder.

The trumpet sounds within-a my soul.

I ain't got long to stay here.

Steal away, steal away, steal away to Jesus.

Steal away. Steal away home.

I ain't got long to stay here.

Green trees are bending, poor sinners stand a-trembling.

The trumpet sounds within-a my soul.

Oh, I ain't got long to stay here.

Steal away, steal away, steal away to Jesus.

One of the old days I'm gonna steal away. Steal away home.

I ain't got long to stay here.

Unison Prayer

Dear Lord, we know that the Monkey Wrench turned the Wagon Wheel toward Canada. With the help from Jesus, the Carpenter, we have followed the Bear's Trail through the woods, filled our Baskets with enough food and supplies to get us to the Crossroads. Once there we dug a Log Cabin in the ground. Shoofly told us to dress up in cotton and satin Bow Ties. We have followed the Flying Geese and Birds in the Air and stayed on the Drunkard's Path. We have taken the Sailboat across the Great Lakes to the North Star above Canada. May this struggle of the journey to freedom resound in our hearts and souls always. Amen.

Benediction

Postlude

Triba – “Into the Promised Land”

RHCC Drum Choir