

PREWORSHIP MUSIC

PRELUDE

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: What joy we feel when we are called together to celebrate God's love.

All: God's love flows through our lives!

Pastor: This is what it means to be the body of Christ!

All: This is what it means to be faithful witnesses to God.

Pastor: Let us rejoice on this day!

All: Amen!

HYMN

I've Got the Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy¹

Bulletin, Last Page

CONFESSION OF SIN

Pastor: While joy fills our hearts and lives, so do sinful thoughts, which often result in sinful behaviors. Therefore, let us confess our sin that God may find joy in our repentance and grant us forgiveness.

All: Teacher of hard truths, it is difficult to let go of our anger toward those who prosper through deceit and unscrupulous ways; it is not easy to make ourselves believe that the meek will inherit the earth, when they are being crushed by the unjust systems stacked against them. We long to see the vindication of the righteous and the prosperity of those who work selflessly to bring your realm here on earth. We yearn for the day when all people will treat one another as they wish to be treated. Help us live into that day, Holy One, even when it is difficult, that your love might shine like the sun through our lives and our ministries. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Pastor: God's love is greater than our understanding and our comprehension. That love is continually given to each and every one of us each day. Rejoice! God's forgiving love is poured out for you now and always.

All: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

I've Got the Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy (Verse 1, only)

I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy,

Down in my heart,

(Where?)

Down in my heart,

(Where?)

Down in my heart;

I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy,

Down in my heart,

(Where?)

Down in my heart to stay.

¹ Public Domain. Negro Spiritual.

OLD TESTAMENT READING –Genesis 42-45

SERMON

Rev. Laura Baker

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come; Thy 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 Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

OFFERING INVITATION

Liturgist: As God has so richly blessed us, let us return a portion of these blessings to God, asking that these gifts may be used in service to others through the ministries and mission of this church. Please join me now in dedicating our gifts in prayer.

OFFERING PRAYER

All people: Source of every blessing, as you sent Joseph into Egypt to save the world from famine, you sent Jesus into our lives to save us from selfishness and greed, For teaching us to treat others as we would have them treat us, we give you our thanks and praise. Bless these gifts, that we have received from your bounty, and send them forth to those in need. whether they be friend or foe. For all are your beloved children and our sisters and brothers. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

HYMN

Father, Bless Us as We Part

Hymnal, #510

BENEDICTION

Pastor: May God's mercy and peace go with you
as you re-enter God's world to serve those in need.
Go in peace.

All: Amen.

POSTLUDE

I'VE GOT THE JOY, JOY, JOY 622

...and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy.

1 Peter 1:8

1. I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy,
2. I've got the peace that pass - eth un - der - stand - ing,
3. I've got the love of Je - sus, love of Je - sus,
4. For there is there - fore now no con - dem - na - tion,

Down in my heart, Down in my heart, Down in my heart;

I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy,
I've got the peace that pass - eth un - der - stand - ing,
I've got the love of Je - sus, love of Je - sus,
For there is there - fore now no con - dem - na - tion,

Down in my heart, Down in my heart to stay.

Text: George W. Cooke

Tune: I'VE GOT THE JOY, Irregular; George W. Cooke