

Subject: Pastor's Weekly Email

From: News from FCCV (lists@firstchurchofvernon.org)

To:

Date: Friday, July 8, 2016 12:01 PM

Family and Friends of FCCV,

"Lord, how long will I call for help and you not listen? I cry out to you, 'Violence!' but you don't deliver us. Why do you show me injustice and look at anguish so that devastation and violence are before me?" Habakkuk 1:1-3

Once again we are crying out ... trying to make some sense of the violence that has happened over the last few days because of 2 black men, one in Louisiana and the other in Minnesota, have been killed by police officers; and then Thursday night, at least 5 police officers in Dallas, TX were killed and 7 others wounded in what seems to be a retaliatory act. It is heartbreaking. "Lord, how long will I call for help and you not listen?" I believe God **is** listening. I believe God is heartbroken, too. In reading Habakkuk, we find God answers Habakkuk with, "Write a vision, and make it plain upon a tablet ..." What is our vision? Is it love, and not hatred? Is it acceptance, and not discrimination? Is it peace, and not hostility? Let us be the ones to help write a vision for God's love!



Sunday we will be outside under our shade trees again. We had a wonderful service last week! This week, I will be sharing from Psalm 146. It is a psalm that encourages us to praise God! Even though we experience difficulty in our lives, there are still many reasons to give God praise! Come and give God praise this Sunday as we worship outside! **Remember, church starts at 9 AM.**

Grace be to y'all,
Robin



Prelude to the Preludes

This week I'm playing a selection of contemporary pieces to complement the two anthems. Some are arrangements of familiar tunes like Lani Smith's "How Can I Keep from Singing?" and, for the postlude, his "Soldiers of Christ, Arise." Mark Hayes' version of "Christians, We Have Met to Worship" is based on the shape-note melody known as "Holy Manna."

There's also three new songs which I found as mostly bare-bones, melody-and-chord-symbol charts, but took the liberty of embellishing and arranging

for piano. "I Could Sing of Your Love Forever," by Martin Smith, stays close to the original with varied left-hand accompaniment figures. "Awesome God," by Rich Mullins, was only one page--just a chorus, really. So I've spun it into a five-page chaconne (a repeating bass line) that builds steadily in texture and volume until the melody finally appears. (I was channeling Pachelbel and his famous 'Canon'.)

"How Great is Our God," by Chris Tomlin, is mostly as printed--I only added stuff to vary repeated material. Enjoy! --James



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Attachments

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