

Season of Wholeness
11th October 2026
Black History Month
led by Fiona Bennett

using material crafted by Revd Dr Tessa Henry Robinson for the URC



*Getting
Grounded
by
Jan Richardson*

Welcome & Gathering

Call to worship:

One: We come with the names of those who raised us and the memory of those who forged a way forward.

All: We honour their courage and give thanks for their lives.

One: We come with stories of migration and settlement, resistance and faith, grief and joy.

All: We bring our whole history into the presence of God.

One: We come as people called by Jesus to break open new ways, cross boundaries and create room.

All: God of life, make us a community of courage.

Hymn: God of great CH4 174

God of great and God of small, God of one and God of all,
God of weak and God of strong, God to whom all things belong,
Alleluia, alleluia, praise be to Your name.

God of land and sky and sea, God of life and destiny,
God of never-ending power, yet beside me every hour,
Alleluia, alleluia, praise be to Your name.

God of silence, God of sound, God by whom the lost are found,
God of day and darkest night, God whose love turns wrong to right,
Alleluia, alleluia, praise be to Your name.

God of heaven and God of earth, God of death and God of birth,
God of now and days before, God who reigns for evermore,
Alleluia, alleluia, praise be to Your name.

CH4 174 Natalie Allyn Wakeley Sleeth.
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Prayer

Introduce Focusing Movement:

ALL: Source, (hands at stomach)

Guide (*hands at heart*)
and Inspiration (*hands at head*)
Holy God three in One, we worship you. (*hands open*)

We unite our prayers together in the Jesus' Prayer or Lord's Prayer using the form or words which are most worshipful for us...

Source of Life,
Father and Mother of us all:
Creation honours you!
May your Realm of Justice & Joy
Sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another,
forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and for ever. Amen

Theme: Sustaining Communities

Prayer of thanksgiving for sustaining community

Hymn: Make us one in the Spirit SoGP 111

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord
And we pray that our unity will one day be restored
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love

We will work with each other, we will work side by side
We will work with each other, we will work side by side
And we'll guard each one's dignity and save each one's pride
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

SoGP 111 Peter Scholtes
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Today we have a choice of activities

- Sermon & Meditation
- Community Picture
- Door Image

Reading: Mark 12:1-12

2 When he returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he was at home. 2 So many gathered around that there was no longer room for them, not even in front of the door, and he was speaking the word to them. 3 Then some people came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them. 4 And when they could not bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him, and after having dug through it, they let down the mat on which the paralytic lay. 5 When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Child, your sins are forgiven." 6 Now some of the scribes were sitting there questioning in their hearts, 7 "Why does this fellow speak in this way? It is blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone?" 8 At once Jesus perceived in his spirit that they were discussing these questions among themselves, and he said to them, "Why do you raise such questions in your hearts? 9 Which is easier: to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Stand up and take your mat and walk'? 10 But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—he said to the paralytic— 11 "I say to you, stand up, take your mat, and go to your home." 12 And he stood up and immediately took the mat and went out before all of them, so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!"

Reflection: They Broke Through the Roof Revd Dr Tessa Henry Robinson (abridged)

Prayers of the People

Response:

One: God of life, make us a community of courage.

All: Honour every life; strengthen every community.

Offering & Dedication

Praise God from whom all blessing flow

Praise God all creature here below

Praise God above, You heavenly host

Praise Maker Christ and Holy Ghost

Music: Louis Bourgeois, c. 1510-1561.

Words: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711

Notices

Hymn: We sing a love CH4 622

We sing a love that sets all people free,
that blows like wind, that burns like scorching flame,
enfolds like earth, springs up like water clear:
come, living love, live in our hearts today.

We sing a love, unflinching, unafraid
to be itself, despite another's wrath,
a love that stands alone and undismayed:
come, strengthening love, live in our hearts today.

We sing a love, that, wandering, will not rest
until it finds its way, its home, its source,
through joy and sadness pressing on refreshed:
come, pilgrim love, live in our hearts today.

*CH4 622 June Boyce-Tillman.
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Blessing & Sung Amen

What's on @ AUC this week?

Event	Date	Time	Location	Notes
AUC Afternoon Tea	Sat 10 th Oct	2-3.30pm	AUC	Delicious food, conversation and a seasoning of entertainment. All welcome
Sunday Worship	Sun 11 th Oct	11am	AUC & Online	Interactive Sunday Worship Service with Fiona leading and preaching
Post Service Zoom Social	Sun 11 th Oct	12 noon	Online	
Post Service Refreshments and Chat	Sun 11 th Oct	12-12.40 pm	AUC	All are welcome to share in refreshments and chat after the service.
Soup lunch	Sun 11 th Oct	12-12.30 pm	AUC	
AUC Church Meeting	Sun 11 th Oct	12.30-2pm	AUC	Everyone is welcome to attend. If you are not a church member or associate member, but would like to receive papers for the meetings in advance, please email the Church Secretary Moira secretary@augustine.org.uk
Contextual Bible Study	Wed 14 th Oct	7.30-8.30pm	Online	Genesis 50: 15-21 Email centre.manager@augustine.org.uk for the Zoom link
Contextual Bible Study	Thu 15 th Oct	12-1pm	Online	Genesis 50: 15-21 Email centre.manager@augustine.org.uk for the Zoom link
Sunday Worship	Sun 18 th Oct	11am	AUC & Online	Blended Sunday Worship Service with Fiona leading and Mike preaching
Post Service Zoom Social	Sun 18 th Oct	12 noon	Online	
Post Service Refreshments and Chat	Sun 18 th Oct	12-12.40 pm	AUC	All are welcome to share in refreshments and chat after the service.

Belonging: Exploring Membership	Sun 18 th Oct	12:45 - 15:00	AUC and Online	What is Church Membership about? This session is for people interested in exploring what it means to... Be the world-wide body of Christ, Be the URC and Be AUC, this session is an opportunity for information, discussion and reflection. To register and for more information please contact Fiona (minister@augustine.org.uk)
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Zoom ID for worship: 84317815003

Zoom ID for all social events: 3140057633

Password: 1861AUC

Zoom Telephone number: 0131 4601196