Kwanzaa Sunday
Sunday, December 27, 2020 at 11:00 a.m.

BROADWAY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Prelude: “Steal Away” (Negro Spiritual) [Robert Galbreath, Jr.]

Celebrate: “It is Kwanzaa” [video: A Kwanzaa Song]

Welcome and Call to Worship [Liza Echevarria and Paula Roderick]

Harambee! We have been called together in the presence of God.

We are called to Umoja!

God calls us to dwell together in UNITY and to be on one accord. We are one in the Spirit. That’s good news!

We are called to Kujichagulia.

We bow in the presence of our Almighty God. His will to be done in our lives. That’s good news!

We are called to Ujima.

Christ calls us to love and to care for each other and ourselves. He watches over us all. That’s good news!

We are called to Ujamaa.

God blesses us to give, to develop, build up, and provide stability to our communities, to give, and we are given back with bonus and blessing. That’s good news!

We are called to Nia.

We live for and to lead others to Christ Jesus; for he is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. That’s good news!

We are called to Kuumba.

We are called through God to dream dreams, as we are older, and to see visions as we are young. That’s good news!
We are called to Imani.

We affirm that through our expressions, the world may believe in the promises of his Word. That’s good news!

We are called together today in the presence of our God.

There is good news today! We come together in God’s presence in worship and service, so that all will know God through the Word, and through our God-directed unity, determination, collective responsibility, economic resourcefulness, purpose, creativity, and faith. That’s still the good news of Kwanzaa!

WELCOME STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY AND CONNECTION

(Welcome to worship, God’s beloved! YES, I Am Welcome! Bienvenidas y bienvenidos!)

SPECIAL MUSIC: “Grasslands Chant” (from Lion King)  [video]

Kwanzaa Principles and Lighting of Candles  [Woo Evans and DeShawn Barrett]

(Spirit of God, enable us to acknowledge and accept the deity of the Triune God who is the Creator, Provider, Sustainer, and Savior of humanity. We ask You to bless our worship experience as we embrace the Seven Principles of Kwanzaa: Bless this assembly and all African and other symbols used in this service.

All Wise God, grant us wisdom and understanding as in the days of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob to honor the call to be Your chosen people. Having been brought to an unfamiliar land, and marked by this history, allow us to acknowledge You as the God who never left us.

I light the Kwanzaa candle for the 1st Principle: UMOJA (Unity). Umoja stresses the importance of togetherness within the family and within the community, which is reflected in the African saying, “I am We,” or “I am because We are.”)

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God, we invoke Your holy presence as we identify, recall, and relay the first principle of unity. Help us to be a unified people while interacting with various communities: family, neighbors, friends, nations, and races, as unity is a blessing from God.

**May we employ the element of unity as we continue to acknowledge the Triune God. May we strive to maintain the true spirit of unity as we walk as your people around the world.**

I light the Kwanzaa candle for the **2nd Principle: KUJICHAGULIA (Self-Determination)** which requires that we define our common interest and make decisions that are in the best interest of our family and community.

God, as we call and relay the second principle of self-determination, teach us how to be self-determining believers as You created us. Help us to know Your will for our lives so that we may help others.

**We will learn to live self-determined lives knowing that our actions must help others and ourselves.**

I light the Kwanzaa candle for the **3rd Principle: UJIMA (Collective Work and Responsibility)**. This reminds us of our obligation to the past, present, and future and that we have a role not just as individuals but also as members of a larger body—the community, society, and the world.

God, grant us the wisdom to develop and maintain collective interests. Teach us how to think collectively and build collectively the family unit and our neighborhoods and to truly be each other’s keeper as You are the Keeper of our souls.

**We will strive to embody a spirit of collective work and responsibility, building and maintaining our communities as did our ancestors.**

I light the Kwanzaa candle for the **4th Principle: UJAMAA (Collective Economics)**. It reminds us that we should pay attention to the resources that come through us and that we should constantly monitor how we use and share our resources for the collective strength to meet common needs through mutual effort and aid.

God, grant us the wisdom to have the tenacity to build and maintain businesses within our communities. Teach us how to think and build cost-effective businesses that will be profitable for both the owner and consumer. Teach us to be mainly savers not consumers.

**God has provided for us. We will be good and faithful stewards over all that God has provided. Together we will build and profit.**

I light the Kwanzaa candle for the **5th Principle: NIA (Purpose)**. Nia encourages us to look within ourselves and set personal goals to benefit the one and the many for the good of the community. We exist for the purposes of worship, ministry, evangelism, fellowship, and discipleship.

**We will keep God’s commandments! This is our purpose. We will love God and our neighbor as ourselves; this is our purpose. We will live as a beacon to the world; we will live as those who give light to the world; and as salt that gives flavor to the world. This is our purpose.**

I light the Kwanzaa candle for the **6th Principle: KUUMBA (Creativity)**. Kuumba is an affirmation of our ability to create and make what we do and how we do it. What we do, distinguishes our culture as one of great power and energy.

God, help us to continue to share our creativity with the world through music, painting, food, dance, worship, and all endeavors in which we engage. We honor the creativity of our people.

**We acknowledge the creative genius of God that is provided for all creation to enjoy. Allow us to keep our minds and hearts open so that God can create what the world needs through us.**

I light the Kwanzaa candle for the **7th Principle: IMANI (Faith)**. Imani requires that we believe in our own self worth, have confidence in our ability and capacity to excel, honoring the best of our traditions, while drawing upon the best in ourselves to succeed in building a better future.
As we call and relay the seventh principle, God, help us to be greater people of faith.

We have come this far by faith. We affirm the values and customs of our ancestors and give thanks for their sojourn as we seek to emulate the best of what they have bequeathed to us. We have faith in God, faith in one another, faith in our race, faith in ourselves, and faith in humanity. Lest we forget…!

**SPECIAL MUSIC:** “I Give Myself Away” (Sam Hinn/William McDowell) [Robert Galbreath, Jr.]

**MESSAGE** [Satia Orange]

**THE INVITATION TO OFFERING**

[Broadway is committed to the financial support of its identity, vision and ministry by tithing. Consider making an offering this morning of 10 percent of your income from this past week.]

God is inviting you to specific ministry of sharing your resources. Please be as generous as you can in your giving. To give online, visit us at BroadwayChurchChicago.com/give or scan the QR code. Thank you for your commitment to God’s purposes through our faith community!

**WAYS TO GIVE:** Mail a check (3338 N. Broadway St., Chicago, IL 60657), drop off a check in our mailbox, set up recurring giving or make a one-time contribution through your bank account or credit card through Vanco here or by scanning the QR code above, Zelle (send to bumclakeview@gmail.com), or text the amount you wish to donate to 833-990-2149.

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION** [Michael Lovett]

Gracious God, we give you thanks. For you have given us each other! Receive our offerings and bless them to the work of compassion, patience, tenderness, and accountability to what is good and right—among us and in all the world. Amen.

**LIBATION STATEMENT**

(Excerpts taken from a Kwanzaa Service – Resource Watchnight Service held at Light of the World Christian Church)

We give thanks to God for all the blessings of the earth, and honor for the great goodness which is manifest in all of creation. We ask that the spirit of Kwanzaa be infused into every aspect of our daily lives, that we may constantly remember the benefits and obligations of family, community and nationhood. May the light of the seven candles illuminate our daily affairs and guide us into fulfillment of our true potential. May we always remember our ancestors with reverence and love, and may they share with us their great wisdom and strength as we seek to preserve and continue the heritage they have left us. May the NGUZO SABA become beacons to us to live lives in service, humility, unity, faith, love and strength. Amen.

**CLOSING HYMN:** “Every Time I Feel the Spirit” UMH # 404

**SENDING FORTH** [Liza Echevarria and Paula Roderick]

(based on Luke 4:13-19 by Michelle Riley Jones)

HARAMBEE! In our closing moments of worship, we reflect on the Word of God, And on the principles of Kwanzaa.
Today, God has anointed us. The Spirit of God is upon us. Know that with God nothing is impossible.

Let us go into the world—AND DO GOOD.

POSTLUDE: “Ain’t gonna let no one turn me around” [video]

Liturgy adapted from Worship Design Studio and enfleshed.com.

BROADWAY UMC ANNOUNCEMENTS

Staff Gifts
Seasons Greetings BUMC! The time has come once again for us to show our amazing staff how much they mean to us! Our church is so blessed to have people who work tirelessly every week so that we may enjoy a heartfelt service. The current situation of the pandemic has caused them to work twice as hard to provide a meaningful service for us. We’re asking all BUMC members to keep this in mind as we ask you to make a cheerful donation towards a monetary holiday gift for our staff. We’re not asking for a specific amount but, we are asking for you to give in the spirit in which the Lord has blessed you!

We are asking that these donations be given by TODAY, December 27th, so that they may be presented by the end of the year; however, late donations are appreciated as well. Please make your donations to the church and specify "Staff Gifts."

Many blessings and happy holidays to all! ~ Broadway Church Relationship Builders

Ways to Give (please indicate “Staff Gifts” in the memo): Mail a check (3338 N. Broadway St., Chicago, IL 60657), drop off a check in our mailbox, set up recurring giving or make a one-time contribution through your bank account or credit card through Vanco here or by scanning the QR code above, Zelle (send to bumclakeview@gmail.com), or text the amount to 833-990-2149.

Hymn Sing
Join us for a service of singing!

On Sunday, January 3, we will present a Hymn Sing at 11am. (Our observance of Holy Communion will move from the 1st Sunday of the month to the 2nd Sunday of the month—January 10.) Our Director of Music Ministries, Robert Galbreath, Jr., will lead the congregation in carols, prayers, and hymns.

Facebook event here.

Mitten Tree
We have a Mitten Tree outside our building, inviting the community to ADD items if they can, and take anything they might NEED! We invite you to contribute also. Feel free to bring your donations of hats, scarves, gloves, mittens or socks whenever you can and add them to the tree. Socks are especially needed. Items should be NEW and put in plastic bags to protect them from the weather. And while you are thinking of it, pick up a can or two of non-perishable food items and donate that to our Community Food Pantry!
CELEBRATING GOD'S LOVE FOR ALL PEOPLE

We are black, brown, red, yellow, white, and all the colors of God's created rainbow. We are lesbian, gay, bisexual, asexual, and straight. We are transgender, intersex, female, male, gender fluid. We are queer. We are questioning. We are every age. We are every ability. We are every economic & theological location. We are YOU.

Welcome to God's Beloved Community at Broadway.

BROADWAY’S MISSION STATEMENT: “God calls Broadway United Methodist Church to be a faith community embracing the diversity of our Chicago neighborhood and larger community. We welcome all persons — celebrating the human family’s God-given diversity of race, age, gender, sexual orientation, and physical or mental capacity. We also welcome persons of all social and economic classes and faith backgrounds. At Broadway, we are accepted into God’s nurturing family, which invites us into spiritual growth through worship, study, mission, and social action. We are grateful for the opportunities God gives us to experience and share the love of Christ.”

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