

# Readings from Service

**2022-02-27 - Sunday Zoom Living Room**

## **Lord, Lord, Open Unto Me, - Howard Thurman, from "Meditations of the Heart"**

Open unto me, light for my darkness

Open unto me, courage for my fear

Open unto me, hope for my despair

Open unto me, peace for my turmoil

Open unto me, joy for my sorrow

Open unto me, strength for my weakness

Open unto me, wisdom for my confusion

Open unto me, forgiveness for my sins

Open unto me, tenderness for my toughness

Open unto me, love for my hates

Open unto me, Thy Self for myself

Lord, Lord, open unto me!

## **Shake Us From Our Slumber, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.**

[Excerpted]

When our eyes do not see the gravity of racial justice,  
Shake us from our slumber and open our eyes, O Lord.

When out of fear we are frozen into inaction,  
Give us a spirit of bravery, O Lord.

When we try our best but say the wrong things,  
Give us a spirit of humility, O Lord.

When the chaos of this dies down,  
Give us a lasting spirit of solidarity, O Lord.

When it becomes easier to point fingers outwards,  
Help us to examine our own hearts, O Lord.

God of truth, in your wisdom, Enlighten Us.

God of hope in your kindness, Heal Us.

Creator of All People, in your generosity, Guide Us.

Open our hearts that we may be bold in finding the riches of inclusion and the treasures of diversity among us. We pray in faith.

## I, Too, by Langston Hughes

I, too, sing America.

I am the darker brother.  
They send me to eat in the kitchen  
When company comes,  
But I laugh,  
And eat well,  
And grow strong.

Tomorrow,  
I'll be at the table  
When company comes.  
Nobody'll dare  
Say to me,  
"Eat in the kitchen,"  
Then.

Besides,  
They'll see how beautiful I am  
And be ashamed—

I, too, am America.