

## The Black Church

This coming Friday at 12:30 the Dismantling Racism class will be discussing the Black Church. We will have a surprise guest speaker who will enrich our conversation. I encourage class participants to listen to the entire services from the two Black churches listed in your homework and note the similarities and differences between those churches and First Presbyterian. What can we learn from them that would enrich our own services? What parts of the Black Church worship would make us uncomfortable at our church? We expect a spirited and spirit-led discussion.

### ***Goal***

To appreciate and learn from the services in Black churches.

### ***Class Assignments***

- **The Black Church. This is our story. This is our song.** Episodes 1 and 2. A moving four-hour, two-part series from Henry Louis Gates, Jr., the Alphonse Fletcher University Professor at Harvard University and director of the Hutchins Center for African and African American Research. The documentary reveals how Black people have worshipped and, through their spiritual journeys, improvised ways to bring their faith traditions from Africa to the New World, while translating them into a form of Christianity that was a redemptive force. <https://www.pbs.org/weta/black-church/>
- **Oakhurst Presbyterian Church Worship Service.** February 7, 2021. This first Sunday in Black History Month Rev. Amantha Barbee preaches and presides at the table as we explore Communion in Black Spirituality. <https://youtu.be/BIG4R7NPxaA>
- **Trinity United Church of Christ 11:00 Worship.** Premiered Sep 20, 2020. Rev. Dr. Otis Moss III. Church Motto: "We are a congregation which is Unashamedly Black and Unapologetically Christian." <https://youtu.be/iDWPwzeglfs>