

GATHERING IN GOD'S WORD

Prelude

Sharing Our Lives in Prayer

Prayer Requests

Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

Welcome

Letting God In

During this time, we invite you to prepare your heart and your mind for worship. We want you to be able to use this quiet time to settle your thoughts, set aside any distractions that may be troubling you, and focus your whole self on God. Open your heart, your mind, and your spirit, and let God into your life.

Centering Prayer: Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.

As you breathe in, pray, "Speak, Lord."

As you breathe out, pray, "For your servant is listening."

* Opening Praise (from Psalm 104):

One: Let my whole being bless the Lord!

Many: In worship, we declare that God is fantastic!

One: Let my whole heart bless the Lord!

Many: In worship, we see God clothed in glory and grandeur!

One: Let my whole mind bless the Lord!

Many: In worship, we dedicate ourselves to God's kin-dom on earth.

One: Let my whole being bless the Lord!

ALL: Praise the Lord!

* Invitation to Confession

* Joining in Prayer (based on *Spill the Beans*, iss. 24, © 2017 Spill the Beans Resource Team):

Lord, in the stillness, you whisper words of stirring. In the turmoil, you whisper words of calm. In every time and place, your voice is present, whispering what we need to hear. In this place, O Lord, may we hear your word – your call – for us. We gather together for worship and prayer, God, but with lots of different thoughts and feelings swirling in and around us. We gather distracted by many things. Draw us back to you, O Lord, so that our worship may help us refocus our eyes on your glory and our ears on your words. You accept our messiness. You contain our fickleness. And you love us into your kingdom. We confess our attempts to escape your reach, to disregard your leading. Keep on speaking, Lord, until we hear and obey. *(Please take a moment for silent reflection and confession.)*

Through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, we pray.

Amen.

* God's Promise of Grace

* The Peace of Christ

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

Many: And also with you.

* Song of Peace: "Let There Be Peace on Earth"

(reprinted with permission, © Jan-Lee Music, copyright-protected alternate lyrics)

Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.

Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.

With God our Creator, we are family.

Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now.

With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow.

To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Prayer to Open Minds and Hearts

Scripture reading – 1 Samuel 3:1-21 (from the *Common English Bible*, © 2011)

¹ Now the boy Samuel was serving the LORD under Eli. The LORD's word was rare at that time, and visions weren't widely known. ² One day Eli, whose eyes had grown so weak he was unable to see, was lying down in his room. ³ God's lamp hadn't gone out yet, and Samuel was lying down in the LORD's temple, where God's chest was. ⁴ The LORD called to Samuel. "I'm here," he said. ⁵ Samuel hurried to Eli and said, "I'm here. You called me?" "I didn't call you," Eli replied. "Go lie down." So he did. ⁶ Again the LORD called Samuel, so Samuel got up, went to Eli, and said, "I'm here. You called me?" "I didn't call, my son," Eli replied. "Go and lie down." ⁷ (Now Samuel didn't yet know the LORD, and the LORD's word hadn't yet been revealed to him.) ⁸ A third time the LORD called Samuel. He got up, went to Eli, and said, "I'm here. You called me?" Then Eli realized that it was the LORD who was calling the boy. ⁹ So Eli said to Samuel, "Go and lie down. If he calls you, say, 'Speak, LORD. Your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down where he'd been. ¹⁰ Then the LORD came and stood there, calling just as before, "Samuel, Samuel!" Samuel said, "Speak. Your servant is listening." ¹¹ The LORD said to Samuel, "I am about to do something in Israel that will make the ears of all who hear it tingle! ¹² On that day, I will bring to pass against Eli everything I said about his household—every last bit of it! ¹³ I told him that I would punish his family forever because of the wrongdoing he knew about—how his sons were cursing God, but he wouldn't stop them. ¹⁴ Because of that I swore about Eli's household that his family's wrongdoing will never be reconciled by sacrifice or by offering." ¹⁵ Samuel lay there until morning, then opened the doors of the LORD's house. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. ¹⁶ But Eli called Samuel, saying: "Samuel, my son!" "I'm here," Samuel said. ¹⁷ "What did he say to you?" Eli asked. "Don't hide anything from me. May God deal harshly with you and worse still if you hide from me a single word from everything he said to you." ¹⁸ So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. "He is the LORD," Eli said. "He will do as he pleases." ¹⁹ So Samuel grew up, and the LORD was with him, not allowing any of his words to fail. ²⁰ All Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was trustworthy as the LORD's prophet. ²¹ The LORD continued to appear at Shiloh because the LORD revealed himself to Samuel at Shiloh through the LORD's own word.

Sermon: "A Call and Response Faith" – Rev. Lisa Johnson

Hymn #69 – I, the Lord of Sea and Sky

(from *Glory to God*, © 2013 Westminster John Knox Press)

I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
My hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night,
I will make my darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord.
Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord,
If you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord.
Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord,
If you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
Till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord.
Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord,
If you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Coming Together in Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer: **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

Hymn #727 – Will You Let Me Be Your Servant
(from *Glory to God*, © 2013 Westminster John Knox Press)

Will you let me be your servant,
Let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace to
Let you be my servant, too.

We are pilgrims on a journey;
We're together on the road.
We are here to help each other
Walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ-light for you
In the nighttime of your fear.
I will hold my hand out to you,

Speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping;
When you laugh I'll laugh with you.
I will share your joy and sorrow
Till we've seen this journey through.

When we sing to God in heaven,
We shall find such harmony,
Born of all we've known together
Of Christ's love and agony.

Will you let me be your servant,
Let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace to
Let you be my servant, too.

Prayer of Gratitude and Blessing

Our offering plates are located at the entrance to the sanctuary. This offering allows us to continue our outreach and mission both here in the community of Oronoco and beyond – in the greater Rochester area, in Minnesota, and even around the world. We are grateful for your willingness to join us in this mission and thank you for your generosity.

Announcements

BEING SENT OUT IN GOD'S WORD

* Charge & Blessing

Postlude

** indicates please rise in body or spirit as you feel led*