

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: **Your commandments promise life, Loving God.***

As you breathe in, pray, "Your commandments promise life."

As you breathe out, pray, "Loving God."

* Opening Praise (based on *Spill the Beans*, iss. 13, © 2014):

One: God calls us to obey.

Many: We obey God. We obey God's commandments.

One: God calls us to love.

Many: We love ourselves. We love our neighbors.

One: God calls us here to this place –

Many: A place of love where all are welcome.

One: God calls.

Many: God commands.

One: We listen.

Many: We obey.

ALL: We worship. We love.

* Invitation to Confession

* Joining in Prayer (based on *Spill the Beans*, iss. 13, © 2014):

You lift us high on eagle's wings, Lord God, giving us an incredible view of your world so we can see it as you see it and love it as you love it. That is what you want, Lord. You want us to recognize the holy in all the landscape of creation and in the corners of our human hearts. You want us to learn how to live and love together. You want us to care for one another and act responsibly toward the world in which we live, toward the people with whom we live. You want us to cherish human individuality and to long for true community. You want us to deal with what is wrong and to work to change it into what is right. You want us to be quick to react to injustice – to react in a way that does justice, loves kindness, and keeps us by your ever-moving, ever-loving side. But, merciful God, we are slow to recognize, sloppy in action, limited in outlook, inattentive to human need, disrespectful to others, and less than worshipful towards your holy name. Forgive us. Show us mercy, and lift us again above our limited perspectives that we might see the world as you see it. Teach us to love all life and our world as you love us and all things. *(Please take a moment for silent reflection and confession.)*

In the spirit of your hope and love, we pray.

Amen.

* God's Promise of Grace

* 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 – Exodus 19:3-7; 20:1-17 (from the *Common English Bible*, © 2011)

³ while Moses went up to God. The Lord called to him from the mountain, "This is what you should say to Jacob's household and declare to the Israelites: ⁴ You saw what I did to the Egyptians, and how I lifted you up on eagles' wings and brought you to me. ⁵ So now, if you faithfully obey me and stay true to my covenant, you will be my most precious possession out of all the peoples, since the whole earth belongs to me. ⁶ You will be a kingdom of priests for me and a holy nation. These are the words you should say to the Israelites." ⁷ So Moses came down, called together the people's elders, and set before them all these words that the Lord had commanded him. ... ¹ Then God spoke all these words: ² I am the Lord your God who brought you out of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. ³ You must have no other gods before me. ⁴ Do not make an idol for yourself—no form whatsoever—of anything in the sky above or on the earth below or in the waters under the earth. ⁵ Do not bow down to them or worship them, because I, the Lord your God, am a passionate God. I punish children for their parents' sins even to the third and fourth generations of those who hate me. ⁶ But I am loyal and gracious to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments. ⁷ Do not use the Lord your God's name as if it were of no significance; the Lord won't forgive anyone who uses his name that way. ⁸ Remember the Sabbath day and treat it as holy. ⁹ Six days you may work and do all your tasks, ¹⁰ but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. Do not do any work on it—not you, your sons or daughters, your male or female servants, your animals, or the immigrant who is living with you. ¹¹ Because the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and everything that is in them in six days, but rested on the seventh day. That is why the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy. ¹² Honor your father and your mother so that your life will be long on the fertile land that the Lord your God is giving you. ¹³ Do not kill. ¹⁴ Do not commit adultery. ¹⁵ Do not steal. ¹⁶ Do not testify falsely against your neighbor. ¹⁷ Do not desire and try to take your neighbor's house. Do not desire and try to take your neighbor's wife, male or female servant, ox, donkey, or anything else that belongs to your neighbor.

Sermon: "Living Promises Point by Point" – Rev. Lisa Johnson

Exploring the Word Together

This is a time for us to process our faith and our hearing of God's word together – a time to be the word of God for one another. It's also a time to build community with one another – a time to share elements of our faith and our understanding of that faith with each other. Feel free to participate in conversation with those around you or sit and ponder this question on your own.

How do the rules of the 10 commandments lift us up?

One: May the words of my mouth,

Many: And the meditations of all of our hearts

ALL: Be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, our rock and our redeemer. Amen.

Hymn – I Have Brought You Out of Egypt (insert)

(by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, © 2012)

"I have brought you out of Egypt," Moses heard the Lord God say.

"I have saved you! I have freed you! people, listen and obey.

Have no other gods before me; don't make idols for yourselves.

I will judge those who reject me; worship me and no one else."

"Do not use the Lord's name wrongly, use God's name for what is good.
Keep the Sabbath; keep it holy; rest and worship as you should.
Honor father, honor mother; do not murder! Honor life!
Do not wander to another from your husband or your wife."

God continued these commandments: "Do not steal another's things;
And you shall not bear false witness — see the anguish that it brings.
Do not seek with bitter longing what you see across the street.
Keep these laws and find within them where my love and justice meet."

God of grace, we see your promise in the covenant you give.
For your law is wise and wondrous as it shows us how to live.
Loving God and loving neighbor, may we follow where you call.
Saved by grace, may we together seek to live your gracious law.

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 – O God, I Adore You (insert – last verse as a round)
(from *Sing the Faith*, © 2003 Geneva Press, words adapted)

O God, I adore you,
Lay my life before you;
How I love you.

Jesus, I adore you,
Lay my life before you;
How I love you.

Spirit, I adore,
Lay my life before;
How I love you.

O God, I adore you,
Lay my life before you;
How I love you.

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