

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: I place my ultimate trust in you, Holy One.

As you breathe in, pray, "I place my ultimate trust."

As you breathe out, pray, "In you, Holy One."

* Opening Praise:

One: In all our weakness and strength,

Many: We come to be your God's.

One: Strong in faith and eager with questions,

Many: We come to be God's people.

One: Singing our praises and whispering our prayers,

Many: We come to be God's people.

One: Filled with saintly determination yet mindful of our human limitations,

Many: We come to be God's people.

One: Made strong in your endless love for us,

Many: We come to be God's people.

One: We know ourselves to be God's own.

Many: May we truly become God's people today.

* Invitation to Confession

* Joining in Prayer:

Eternal God, you are the beginning and the end of all things. We come before you as children – with wild abandon, with hearts full of song and souls ablaze with joy. Help us to live as those who are prepared to die, and enable us to die as those who go forth to live, so that whether living or dying, our hearts will always belong to you. We confess that we are often unresponsive to your will. You call us to proclaim your name, but we are silent. You call us to do what is just, but we remain idle. You call us to live faithfully, but we are afraid. Renew our faithfulness, Holy One. We need your grace to sooth us. We need your love to make us whole. (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

* Sharing the Peace of Christ

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

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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 – 2 Kings 5:1-15a (from the *Common English Bible*, © 2011)

¹ Naaman, a general for the king of Aram, was a great man and highly regarded by his master, because through him the Lord had given victory to Aram. This man was a mighty warrior, but he had a skin disease. ² Now Aramean raiding parties had gone out and captured a young girl from the land of Israel. She served Naaman's wife. ³ She said to her mistress, "I wish that my master could come before the prophet who lives in Samaria. He would cure him of his skin disease." ⁴ So Naaman went and told his master what the young girl from the land of Israel had said. ⁵ Then Aram's king said, "Go ahead. I will send a letter to Israel's king." So Naaman left. He took along ten kikkars of silver, six thousand shekels of gold, and ten changes of clothing. ⁶ He brought the letter to Israel's king. It read, "Along with this letter I'm sending you my servant Naaman so you can cure him of his skin disease." ⁷ When the king of Israel read the letter, he ripped his clothes. He said, "What? Am I God to hand out death and life? But this king writes me, asking me to cure someone of his skin disease! You must realize that he wants to start a fight with me." ⁸ When Elisha the man of God heard that Israel's king had ripped his clothes, he sent word to the king: "Why did you rip your clothes? Let the man come to me. Then he'll know that there's a prophet in Israel." ⁹ Naaman arrived with his horses and chariots. He stopped at the door of Elisha's house. ¹⁰ Elisha sent out a messenger who said, "Go and wash seven times in the Jordan River. Then your skin will be restored and become clean." ¹¹ But Naaman went away in anger. He said, "I thought for sure that he'd come out, stand and call on the name of the Lord his God, wave his hand over the bad spot, and cure the skin disease. ¹² Aren't the rivers in Damascus, the Abana and the Pharpar, better than all Israel's waters? Couldn't I wash in them and get clean?" So he turned away and proceeded to leave in anger. ¹³ Naaman's servants came up to him and spoke to him: "Our father, if the prophet had told you to do something difficult, wouldn't you have done it? All he said to you was, 'Wash and become clean.'" ¹⁴ So Naaman went down and bathed in the Jordan seven times, just as the man of God had said. His skin was restored like that of a young boy, and he became clean. ¹⁵ He returned to the man of God with all his attendants. He came and stood before Elisha, saying, "Now I know for certain that there's no God anywhere on earth except in Israel."

Sermon: "It's That Simple" – 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.

Can our own expectations get in the way of following God? How?

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 #815 – Give to the Winds Thy Fears
(from *Glory to God*, © 2013 Westminster John Knox Press)

Give to the winds thy fears;
Hope, and be undismayed.
God hears thy sighs and counts thy tears;
God shall lift up thy head.

Through waves and clouds and storms
God gently clears the way.
Wait patiently; so shall this night
Soon end in joyous day.

Leave to God's sovereign sway
To choose and to command.
So shalt thou, wondering, own God's way,
How wise, how strong God's hand!

Let us in life, in death,
Thy steadfast truth declare,
And publish with our final breath
Thy love and guardian care.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Honoring and Remembering the Ones We Love

Lighting the Center Candle

Moment of Silent Remembrance

Readings from *The Cure For Sorrow: A Book of Blessings for Times of Grief* by Jan Richardson

“Blessing of Salt, Blessing of Light”

“Blessing for One Already Brave”

A Liturgy for All Saints' (insert)

Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

Celebrating the Lord's Supper

Our tradition in this congregation is to partake of the bread whenever you feel prepared to do so and to hold the wine/juice until all have been served so that we can all partake together. This gives us the chance to participate in this holy mystery as we participate in our faith – both as individuals and as a community.

Invitation to the Table

Great Thanksgiving

One: The Lord be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

Many: We lift them up to God.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Many: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Prayer for the Feast

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.**

Words of Institution

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Hymn #326 – For All the Saints

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

For all the saints who from their labors rest,

Who thee by faith before the world confessed,

Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;
Thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;
Thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

O blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle; they in glory shine;
Yet all are one in thee, for all are thine.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,
Steals on the ear the distant triumph song,
And hearts are brave again, and arms are strong.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
Singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
Alleluia! Alleluia!

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*