

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: **Renew us in your word again, God of the ages.***

As you breathe in, pray, "Renew us in your word again."

As you breathe out, pray, "God of the ages."

* Opening Praise (from Psalm 85):

One: Let us hear what the Lord God says

Many: Because God speaks peace to the people,

One: Because God speaks wisdom to the people,

Many: Because God speaks life to the people.

One: Let us hear what the Lord God says

Many: Because God speaks hope to the people,

One: Because God speaks forgiveness to the people,

Many: Because God speaks grace to the people.

One: Yes, the Lord gives what is good,

Many: And our lives yield God's own glory.

One: Yes, the Lord gives what is good,

ALL: And our lives yield God's own word.

* Invitation to Confession

* Joining in Prayer:

God, you have given us your word – not just a simple and lifeless words on a page, but a living, breathing, inspiring Way of being in this world. You gave us your word to teach us. You gave us your word to hold us. You gave us your word to guide us. You gave us your word, not for your benefit, but for the sake of our very lives and souls. Yet too often, God, we neglect your word. Too often we try to manipulate your word for our own means, our own agendas, our own desperate and earthly desires. Too often we forget that your word is good news – good, good news for all people. Renew us in your word again and again and again, Holy One. Renew our hearts and minds. Renew our spirits and lives. Renew our devotion and our dedication through your holy word. (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"

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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 22:11-20a (from the *Common English Bible*)

¹¹ As soon as the king heard what the Instruction scroll said, he ripped his clothes. ¹² The king ordered the priest Hilkiah, Shaphan's son Ahikam, Micaiah's son Achbor, Shaphan the secretary, and Asaiah the royal officer as follows: ¹³ "Go and ask the LORD on my behalf, and on behalf of the people, and on behalf of all Judah concerning the contents of this scroll that has been found. The LORD must be furious with us because our ancestors failed to obey the words of this scroll and do everything written in it about us." ¹⁴ So Hilkiah the priest, Ahikam, Achbor, Shaphan, and Asaiah went to the prophetess Huldah. She was married to Shallum, Tikvah's son and Harhas' grandson, who was in charge of the wardrobe. She lived in Jerusalem in the second district. When they spoke to her, ¹⁵ she replied, "This is what the LORD, Israel's God, says: Tell this to the man who sent you to me: ¹⁶ This is what the LORD says: I am about to bring disaster on this place and its citizens—all the words in the scroll that Judah's king has read! ¹⁷ My anger burns against this place, never to be quenched, because they've deserted me and have burned incense to other gods, angering me by everything they have done. ¹⁸ But also say this to the king of Judah, who sent you to question the LORD: This is what the LORD, Israel's God, says about the message you've just heard: ¹⁹ Because your heart was broken and you submitted before the LORD when you heard what I said about this place and its citizens—that they will become a horror and a curse—and because you ripped your clothes and cried before me, I have listened to you, declares the LORD. ²⁰ That's why I will gather you to your ancestors, and you will go to your grave in peace. You won't experience the disaster I am about to bring on this place."

Sermon: "Huldah: Woman of Reproach and Redemption" – Rev. Lisa Johnson

Hymn #687 – Our God, Our Help in Ages Past
(from *Glory to God*, © 2013 Westminster John Knox Press)

Our God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast
And our eternal home.

Beneath the shadow of thy throne
Thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is thine arm alone,
And our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,
Or earth received its frame,
From everlasting thou art God,
To endless years the same.

A thousand ages in thy sight
Are like an evening gone,
Short as the watch that ends the night
Before the rising dawn.

Time, like an ever rolling stream,
Bears all our years away;
They fly forgotten, as a dream
Dies at the opening day.

Our God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be thou our guard while life shall last,
And our eternal home.

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, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

Hymn #434 – Restore in Us, O God

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

Restore in us, O God,
The splendor of your love;
Renew your image in our hearts,
And all our sins remove.

O Spirit, wake in us
The wonder of your power;
From fruitless fear unfurl our lives
Like springtime bud and flower.

Bring us, O Christ, to share
The fullness of your joy;
Baptize us in the risen life
That death cannot destroy.

Three-personed God, fulfill
The promise of your grace,
That we, when all our searching ends,
May see you face to face.

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*