

## GATHERING IN GOD'S WORD

Prelude

Rocky Nisbit, accompanist

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: Move us, Holy Spirit. Stir us, Divine Disturber.**

*As you breathe in, pray, "Move us, Holy Spirit."*

*As you breathe out, pray, "Stir Us, Divine Disturber."*

Glimpses of God

*With the authentic stories of our lives and our days, we call each other into this time of worship together by sharing the glimpses of God that have captured our attention throughout the last week or two. If you have a way that you've noticed God – God's work, God's love, God's leading, God's presence – we invite you to come up and share it. Your story doesn't have to be eloquent. It doesn't have to be long. Your experience of God is yours to share in whatever way is most comfortable for you. We hold space for your story, and we listen with our ears and our hearts.*

\* Invitation to Confession

\* Joining in Prayer (based on *Spill the Beans*, iss. 15, © 2015 Spill the Beans Resources):

**God, we praise you for being as close as breathing to us: not some distant deity, aloof and afar, but beside us and within us, inspiring and guiding us. God, we praise you for being merciful to us: not some cold judge, detached and remote, but beside us and for us, forgiving and renewing us. God, we praise you for being the very breath within us: giving us a kiss of life, filling our souls with the air of faith, filling our hearts with the air of hope, filling our whole being with the truth that you are beside us, within us, and for us, now and always. Forgive us for forgetting that your love is higher and deeper and wider than we could possibly imagine. Forgive us for thinking that somehow we had found a new way to be that would cut us off from that love, deny us your peace, and condemn us to the shadows. Reassure us once again, God, that your love knows no bounds, especially not the bounds of the four walls of any church. Instead, help us to pray with each breath and believe with each, striving always to follow in the way of Jesus. (Please take a moment for silent reflection and confession.)**

In the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, 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 – Acts 2:1-21 (from the *Common English Bible*, © 2011)

<sup>1</sup> When Pentecost Day arrived, they were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup> Suddenly a sound from heaven like the howling of a fierce wind filled the entire house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup> They saw what seemed to be individual flames of fire alighting on each one of them. <sup>4</sup> They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as the Spirit enabled them to speak. <sup>5</sup> There were pious Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup> When they heard this sound, a crowd gathered. They were mystified because everyone heard them speaking in their native languages. <sup>7</sup> They were surprised and amazed, saying, "Look, aren't all the people who are speaking Galileans, every one of them?" <sup>8</sup> How then can each of us hear them speaking in our native language? <sup>9</sup> Parthians, Medes, and Elamites; as well as residents of Mesopotamia, Judea, and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup> Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the regions of Libya bordering Cyrene; and visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism), <sup>11</sup> Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the mighty works of God in our own languages!" <sup>12</sup> They were all surprised and bewildered. Some asked each other, "What does this mean?" <sup>13</sup> Others jeered at them, saying, "They're full of new wine!" <sup>14</sup> Peter stood with the other eleven apostles. He raised his voice and declared, "Judeans and everyone living in Jerusalem! Know this! Listen carefully to my words! <sup>15</sup> These people aren't drunk, as you suspect; after all, it's only nine o'clock in the morning! <sup>16</sup> Rather, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: <sup>17</sup> In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy. Your young will see visions. Your elders will dream dreams. <sup>18</sup> Even upon my servants, men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy. <sup>19</sup> I will cause wonders to occur in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and a cloud of smoke. <sup>20</sup> The sun will be changed into darkness, and the moon will be changed into blood, before the great and spectacular day of the Lord comes. <sup>21</sup> And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

Sermon: "Not Just for the Church" – 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 does the Holy Spirit stir your heart?

Hymn #280 – Come, O Spirit, Dwell Among Us  
(from *Glory to God*, © 2013 Westminster John Knox Press)

Come, O Spirit, dwell among us;  
Come with Pentecostal power;  
Give the church a stronger vision;  
Help us face each crucial hour.  
Built upon a firm foundation,  
Jesus Christ, the Cornerstone,  
Still the church is called to mission  
That God's love shall be made known.

We would raise our alleluias  
For the grace of yester-years;  
For tomorrow's unknown pathway,  
Hear, O Lord, our humble prayers.

In the church's pilgrim journey  
You have led us all the way;  
Still in presence move before us,  
Fire by night and cloud by day.

Come, O Spirit, dwell among us;  
Give us words of fire and flame.  
Help our feeble lips to praise you,  
Glorify your holy name.  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
Three in One: what mystery!  
We would sing our loud hosannas  
Now and through eternity.

### 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 #315 – In the Midst of New Dimensions  
(from *Glory to God*, © 2013 Westminster John Knox Press)

In the midst of new dimensions,  
In the face of changing ways,  
Who will lead the pilgrim peoples  
Wandering in their separate ways?  
    God of rainbow, fiery pillar,  
    Leading where the eagles soar,  
    We your people, ours the journey  
    Now and ever, now and ever,  
    Now and evermore.

Through the flood of starving people,  
Warring factions, and despair,  
Who will lift the olive branches?  
Who will light the flame of care?  
    God of rainbow, fiery pillar,  
    Leading where the eagles soar,  
    We your people, ours the journey  
    Now and ever, now and ever,  
    Now and evermore.

As we stand, a world divided  
By our own self-seeking schemes,  
Grant that we, your global village,  
Might envision wider dreams.  
    God of rainbow, fiery pillar,  
    Leading where the eagles soar,  
    We your people, ours the journey  
    Now and ever, now and ever,  
    Now and evermore.

We are man and we are woman,

All persuasions, old and young,  
Each a gift in your creation,  
Each a love song to be sung.  
    God of rainbow, fiery pillar,  
    Leading where the eagles soar,  
    We your people, ours the journey  
    Now and ever, now and ever,  
    Now and evermore.

Should the threats of dire predictions  
Cause us to withdraw in pain,  
May your blazing phoenix spirit  
Resurrect the church again.  
    God of rainbow, fiery pillar,  
    Leading where the eagles soar,  
    We your people, ours the journey  
    Now and ever, now and ever,  
    Now and evermore.

#### 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

#### \* Blessing

#### \* Claiming Our Faith Identity

*This is a chance for us to remind one another of both who we are and whose we are before we head back out in the world. The hope is that, as we grow more and more familiar with the words and the claim and call that they place on our hearts, we'll be able to recall them throughout the week in those moments when we need to tap into our faith. The words and phrases are also aimed at helping us connect with our congregation's own mission statement: "We are a community of believers whose mission is to share God's Word, show God's Love, serve God's World, and strive for God's Peace."*

One: We are the Church –

**ALL: God's beloved children today, tomorrow, and always.**

One: Here, in this worship, through prayer, word, and fellowship,

**ALL: God has embraced us yet again, and our spirits have been made new.**

One: Suffused with God's grace,

**ALL: We claim new strength, new purpose, and new hope in our call.**

One: With spirits reaffirmed and renewed,

**ALL: We are called to SHARE God's Word. We are called to SHOW God's Love. We are called to SERVE God's World. We are called to STRIVE for God's Peace.**

One: We are the Church

**ALL: Because God binds us together in sacred companionship and blessed connectedness.**

One: And now, as the Church, God calls us out

**ALL: To do and be God's extravagant love in the world.**

One: This service has ended.

**ALL: Now our service can begin.**

Postlude

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