

## 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: Speak through my faith, God, in word, deed, and being.**

*As you breathe in, pray, "Speak through my faith, God."*

*As you breathe out, pray, "In word, deed, and being."*

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):

**Creator God, we meet here, people from different backgrounds who bring different gifts, different baggage, different growing edges, different pain. We meet here all together, united in our love for you. We are glad of the many differences we have – of the variety of ways we look, speak, act, and even believe. We enjoy the differences in the world – shapes and colors, seasons and elements, cultures and traditions. We are sorry that sometimes we use our differences to cause division and disunity among your family. Forgive us. We are sorry that sometimes we forget that everyone is beautiful and worthy and beloved, and that our words and actions cause others to feel inferior or unworthy. Forgive us. Remind us that we are all one in Christ Jesus and that we are all loved unconditionally by you. Help us to be more like Jesus in all our words and actions, in all that we do and say and are each day. (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"

(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 – Romans 1:1-17 (from the *Common English Bible*, © 2011)

<sup>1</sup> From Paul, a slave of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for God's good news. <sup>2-3</sup> God promised this good news about his Son ahead of time through his prophets in the holy scriptures. His Son was descended from David. <sup>4</sup> He was publicly identified as God's Son with power through his resurrection from the dead, which was based on the Spirit of holiness. This Son is Jesus Christ our Lord. <sup>5</sup> Through him we have received God's grace and our appointment to be apostles. This was to bring all Gentiles to faithful obedience for his name's sake. <sup>6</sup> You who are called by Jesus Christ are also included among these Gentiles. <sup>7</sup> To those in Rome who are dearly loved by God and called to be God's people. Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>8</sup> First of all, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because the news about your faithfulness is being spread throughout the whole world. <sup>9</sup> I serve God in my spirit by preaching the good news about God's Son, and God is my witness that I continually mention you <sup>10</sup> in all my prayers. I'm always asking that somehow, by God's will, I might succeed in visiting you at last. <sup>11</sup> I really want to see you to pass along some spiritual gift to you so that you can be strengthened. <sup>12</sup> What I mean is that we can mutually encourage each other while I am with you. We can be encouraged by the faithfulness we find in each other, both your faithfulness and mine. <sup>13</sup> I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that I planned to visit you many times, although I have been prevented from coming until now. I want to harvest some fruit among you, just as I have done among the other Gentiles. <sup>14</sup> I have a responsibility both to Greeks and to those who don't speak Greek, both to the wise and to the foolish. <sup>15</sup> That's why I'm ready to preach the gospel also to you who are in Rome. <sup>16</sup> I'm not ashamed of the gospel: it is God's own power for salvation to all who have faith in God, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. <sup>17</sup> God's righteousness is being revealed in the gospel, from faithfulness for faith, as it is written, The righteous person will live by faith.

Sermon: "A Gospel Warm Call" – 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 can you share something about your faith with someone this week?

Hymn #722 – Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak  
(from *Glory to God*, © 2013 Westminster John Knox Press)

Lord, speak to me that I may speak  
In living echoes of your tone.  
As you have sought, so let me seek  
Your erring children, lost and lone.

O lead me, Lord, that I may lead  
The wandering and the wavering feet.  
O feed me, Lord, that I may feed  
Your hungering ones with manna sweet.

O teach me, Lord, that I may reach  
The precious truths which you impart.  
And wing my words that they may reach  
The hidden depths of many a heart.

O use me, Lord, use even me,  
Just as you will, and when, and where  
Until your blessed face I see,  
Your rest, your joy, your glory share.

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Coming Together in 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: God 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 God Most High.

**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 #501 – Feed Us, Lord

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

Feed us, Lord.

Feed us, Lord.

In the broken bread,

Be revealed again.

Come and feed our hearts, O Lord.

Quench us, Lord.

Quench us, Lord.

On this thirsty ground,

May your love flow down.

Come and quench our hearts, O Lord.

Fill us, Lord.

Fill us, Lord,

With the bread and wine

Of the risen Christ.

Come and fill our hearts, O Lord.

Lead us, Lord.

Lead us, Lord,

Nourished here by Christ,

Given strength for life.

Come and lead our hearts, O Lord.

## 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*