

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: **Through shadows and light, lead me always, God.***

As you breathe in, pray, "Through shadows and light."

As you breathe out, pray, "Lead me always, God."

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

One: Here in this place,

Many: We are who we are.

One: Here in this place,

Many: We are who our choices have made us to be.

One: Here in this place,

Many: We are also who God hopes we will be.

One: We come as we are:

Many: Beloved of God.

One: We come as we are:

Many: Treasured, unique, and still becoming.

One: So come and be loved

ALL: Just as you are.

* Invitation to Confession

* Joining in Prayer – *This morning, we will pray Psalm 51:1-17 responsively by the full verse as our prayer that both declares our love and devotion to God and names our broken places and growing edges.* (from the *Common English Bible*, © 2011)

¹ Have mercy on me, God, according to your faithful love!

Wipe away my wrongdoings according to your great compassion!

² **Wash me completely clean of my guilt;
purify me from my sin!**

³ Because I know my wrongdoings,
my sin is always right in front of me.

⁴ **I've sinned against you—you alone.
I've committed evil in your sight.**

**That's why you are justified when you render your verdict,
completely correct when you issue your judgment.**

⁵ Yes, I was born in guilt, in sin,
from the moment my mother conceived me.

⁶ **And yes, you want truth in the most hidden places;
you teach me wisdom in the most secret space.**

⁷ Purify me with hyssop and I will be clean;
wash me and I will be whiter than snow.

⁸ **Let me hear joy and celebration again;
let the bones you crushed rejoice once more.**

⁹ Hide your face from my sins;
wipe away all my guilty deeds!

¹⁰ **Create a clean heart for me, God;
put a new, faithful spirit deep inside me!**

¹¹ Please don't throw me out of your presence;
please don't take your holy spirit away from me.

¹² **Return the joy of your salvation to me
and sustain me with a willing spirit.**

¹³ Then I will teach wrongdoers your ways,
and sinners will come back to you.

¹⁴ **Deliver me from violence, God, God of my salvation,
so that my tongue can sing of your righteousness.**

¹⁵ Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth will proclaim your praise.

¹⁶ **You don't want sacrifices.
If I gave an entirely burned offering,
you wouldn't be pleased.**

¹⁷ A broken spirit is my sacrifice, God.
You won't despise a heart, God, that is broken and crushed.

ALL: Amen.

* God's Promise of Grace

* 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 Samuel 12:1-9, 13-15 (from the *Common English Bible*, © 2011)

¹ So the Lord sent Nathan to David. When Nathan arrived he said, "There were two men in the same city, one rich, one poor. ² The rich man had a lot of sheep and cattle, ³ but the poor man had nothing—just one small ewe lamb that he had bought. He raised that lamb, and it grew up with him and his children. It would eat from his food and drink from his cup—even sleep in his arms! It was like a daughter to him. ⁴ "Now a traveler came to visit the rich man, but he wasn't willing to take anything from his own flock or herd to prepare for the guest who had arrived. Instead, he took the poor man's ewe lamb and prepared it for the visitor." ⁵ David got very angry at the man, and he said to Nathan, "As surely as the Lord lives, the one who did this is demonic! ⁶ He must restore the ewe lamb seven times over because he did this and because he had no compassion." ⁷ "You are that man!" Nathan told David. "This is what the Lord God of

Israel says: I anointed you king over Israel and delivered you from Saul's power. ⁸ I gave your master's house to you, and gave his wives into your embrace. I gave you the house of Israel and Judah. If that was too little, I would have given even more. ⁹ Why have you despised the Lord's word by doing what is evil in his eyes? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and taken his wife as your own. You used the Ammonites to kill him. ... ¹³ "I've sinned against the LORD!" David said to Nathan. "The LORD has removed your sin," Nathan replied to David. "You won't die. ¹⁴ However, because you have utterly disrespected the LORD^a by doing this, the son born to you will definitely die." ¹⁵ Then Nathan went home.

Sermon: "The Promise Beyond the SNAFU" – 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 we grow more comfortable with self-examination?

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 #649 – Amazing Grace

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

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,

That saved a wretch like me!

I once was lost, but now am found,

Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,

And grace my fears relieved.

How precious did that grace appear

The hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils, and snares,

I have already come.

'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,

And grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me;

His word my hope secures.

He will my shield and portion be

As long as life endures.

When we've been there ten thousand years,

Bright shining as the sun,

We've no less days to sing God's praise

Than when we'd first begun.

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 #470 – There Is a Longing in Our Hearts
(from *Glory to God*, © 2013 Westminster John Knox Press)

There is a longing in our hearts, O Lord,
For you to reveal yourself to us.
There is a longing in our hearts for love
We only find in you, our God.

For justice, for freedom, for mercy:
Hear our prayer.
In sorrow, in grief:
Be near; hear our prayer, O God.

There is a longing in our hearts, O Lord,
For you to reveal yourself to us.
There is a longing in our hearts for love
We only find in you, our God.

For wisdom, for courage, for comfort:
Hear our prayer.
In weakness, in fear:
Be near; hear our prayer, O God.

There is a longing in our hearts, O Lord,
For you to reveal yourself to us.
There is a longing in our hearts for love
We only find in you, our God.

For healing, for wholeness, for new life:
Hear our prayer.
In sickness, in death:
Be near; hear our prayer, O God.

There is a longing in our hearts, O Lord,
For you to reveal yourself to us.
There is a longing in our hearts for love
We only find in you, our God.

Lord save us, take pity,
Light in our darkness.
We call you; we wait:
Be near; hear our prayer, O God.

There is a longing in our hearts, O Lord,
For you to reveal yourself to us.
There is a longing in our hearts for love
We only find in you, our God.

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*