

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: **Teach me your way, Holy One.***

As you breathe in, pray, "Teach me your way."

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

* Opening Praise (from Psalm 1):

One: Truly happy people, let us come before God!

Many: Let us love the Lord's instruction.

One: Truly blessed people, let us come before God!

Many: Let us recite God's instructions day and night.

One: Truly beloved people, let us come before God!

Many: We come, planted by God in this place.

One: We come, renewed by God's streams of living water.

Many: We come, ready to bear the fruits of God's Spirit.

One: Indeed, friends, let us come before God!

ALL: We come, God of all. We come!

* Invitation to Confession

* Joining in Prayer (based on *Spill the Beans*, iss. 24, © 2017 Spill the Beans Resource Team:

Lord, you teach us that life is a gift – each child precious, unique; each one loved and adored. Forgive us when we waste the gift of life in ways that are not life-giving. Remind us that life is made for sharing, for talking and caring for each other. Forgive us when we misuse the gift of life – for those times when we are rude or cruel. Remind us that life is made for loving each other and finding ways to reconcile to each other. Remind us of how precious each one of us is and how important it is to treat each other as we want to be treated. May we strive to offer ourselves for our brothers and sisters, sacrificing our wants and desires to help bring in your kingdom here and now. (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"

(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 – Genesis 21:1-3; 22:1-14 (from the *Common English Bible*, © 2011)

¹ The LORD was attentive to Sarah just as he had said, and the LORD carried out just what he had promised her. ² She became pregnant and gave birth to a son for Abraham when he was old, at the very time God had told him. ³ Abraham named his son—the one Sarah bore him—Isaac. ... ^{22:1} After these events, God tested Abraham and said to him, "Abraham!" Abraham answered, "I'm here." ² God said, "Take your son, your only son whom you love, Isaac, and go to the land of Moriah. Offer him up as an entirely burned offering there on one of the mountains that I will show you." ³ Abraham got up early in the morning, harnessed his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, together with his son Isaac. He split the wood for the entirely burned offering, set out, and went to the place God had described to him. ⁴ On the third day, Abraham looked up and saw the place at a distance. ⁵ Abraham said to his servants, "Stay here with the donkey. The boy and I will walk up there, worship, and then come back to you." ⁶ Abraham took the wood for the entirely burned offering and laid it on his son Isaac. He took the fire and the knife in his hand, and the two of them walked on together. ⁷ Isaac said to his father Abraham, "My father?" Abraham said, "I'm here, my son." Isaac said, "Here is the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for the entirely burned offering?" ⁸ Abraham said, "The lamb for the entirely burned offering? God will see to it, my son." The two of them walked on together. ⁹ They arrived at the place God had described to him. Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. He tied up his son Isaac and laid him on the altar on top of the wood. ¹⁰ Then Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to kill his son as a sacrifice. ¹¹ But the LORD's messenger called out to Abraham from heaven, "Abraham? Abraham?" Abraham said, "I'm here." ¹² The messenger said, "Don't stretch out your hand against the young man, and don't do anything to him. I now know that you revere God and didn't hold back your son, your only son, from me." ¹³ Abraham looked up and saw a single ram caught by its horns in the dense underbrush. Abraham went over, took the ram, and offered it as an entirely burned offering instead of his son. ¹⁴ Abraham named that place "the LORD sees." That is the reason people today say, "On this mountain the LORD is seen."

Sermon: "What Do You Want, God?" – Rev. Lisa Johnson

Hymn #309 – Come, Great God of All the Ages
(from *Glory to God*, © 2013 Westminster John Knox Press)

Come, great God of all the ages;
Make your earthly mission known;
Speak through every deed and person;
Let your way and will be shown.
Guide the church to true commitment;
Give direction now, we ask;
Fit us for the work of building;
Dedicate us to the task.

Come, Christ Jesus, flesh and spirit,
Sure foundation, cornerstone;
Help us form the church eternal;
May your vision be our own.
Send a message to each follower;
Lead all people to your way;
Urge us to strong faith and action

As we build the church today.

Come, great Spirit, in and with us,
Tun our ears to hear your call;
Through the moving of your presence,
Let redeeming love recall
Ministry in dedication,
Love embodied in our deeds;
Challenge us to do your bidding,
See your purpose, fill all needs.

Come, O come, in celebration,
Household of the one true God;
In commitment and rejoicing
Let us go where Christ has trod;
As we act in faith and reverence,
Let us, Lord, the future see;
Place us in the church triumphant,
Now and for 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, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

Hymn #720 – Jesus Calls Us

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

Jesus calls us: o'er the tumult
Of our life's wild, restless sea;
Day by day his sweet voice soundeth
Saying, "Christian, follow me."

Jesus calls us from the worship
Of the vain world's golden store,
From each idol that would keep us,
Saying, "Christian, love me more."

In our joys and in our sorrows,
Days of toil and hours of ease,
Still he calls, in cares and pleasures,
"Christian, love me more than these."

Jesus calls us: by thy mercies,
Savior, may we hear thy call,
Give our hearts to thy obedience,
Serve and love thee best of all.

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*