

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: **God, teach me to listen with love.***

As you breathe in, pray, "God, teach me."

As you breathe out, pray, "To listen with love."

* Opening Praise (based on a prayer written by Anita Monro):

One: Our God is the One who seeks –

Many: The beginning and end of our search.

One: Our God is the One who finds –

Many: The alpha and omega of all discovery.

One: Our God is the One who asks –

Many: The voice and the silence of our exploration.

One: Our God is the One who gives –

Many: The fullness and the emptiness of all yearning.

One: Our God is the One who persists,

Many: Who never abandons the search for us,

One: Who never tires of our repetitive to-ings and fro-ings,

Many: Our constant turning away and returning.

One: Our God is the One who receives –

Many: The One who welcomes us home.

* Invitation to Confession

* Joining in Prayer (based on *Spill the Beans*, iss. 14, © 2014 Spill the Beans Resources):

God, we worship your majesty in the beauty of sanctuaries, in the ordinariness of community centers, behind closed doors and in open spaces. Wherever your people gather, you are there – transfiguring every moment, providing fresh revelation, enlivening the journey. God, forgive us when we are so consumed by tiny details that we fail to see you in all your splendor. And forgive us when we look for you in lofty places when you are crouched down with the lowly. Forgive us and free us to see you afresh in every time and place, sitting beside us in our rest and walking with us on the journey. Lord of life, transfigure our lives – here in worship and in our everyday lives. (Please take a moment for silent reflection and confession.)

In the name of Jesus, the blessed Christ, 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 – Matthew 7:1-12 (from the *Common English Bible*, © 2011)

¹ "Don't judge, so that you won't be judged. ² You'll receive the same judgment you give. Whatever you deal out will be dealt out to you. ³ Why do you see the splinter that's in your brother's or sister's eye, but don't notice the log in your own eye? ⁴ How can you say to your brother or sister, 'Let me take the splinter out of your eye,' when there's a log in your eye? ⁵ You deceive yourself! First take the log out of your eye, and then you'll see clearly to take the splinter out of your brother's or sister's eye. ⁶ Don't give holy things to dogs, and don't throw your pearls in front of pigs. They will stomp on the pearls, then turn around and attack you. ⁷ "Ask, and you will receive. Search, and you will find. Knock, and the door will be opened to you. ⁸ For everyone who asks, receives. Whoever seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door is opened. ⁹ Who among you will give your children a stone when they ask for bread? ¹⁰ Or give them a snake when they ask for fish? ¹¹ If you who are evil know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give good things to those who ask him. ¹² Therefore, you should treat people in the same way that you want people to treat you; this is the Law and the Prophets.

Sermon: "Do Unto Others ..." – 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.

When was a time you felt like someone made the effort to treat you the way they wanted to be treated?

Hymn #175 – Seek Ye First

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

Seek ye first the kingdom of God
And its righteousness,
And all these things will be added unto you.
Allelu, alleluia!

Ask, and it shall be given unto you;
Seek, and you shall find;
Know, and the door shall be opened unto you.
Allelu, alleluia!

You shall not live by bread alone,
But by every word
That proceeds from the mouth of God.
Allelu, alleluia!

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 #192 – Lord, the Light of the Love is Shining

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

Lord, the light of your love is shining,
In the midst of the darkness, shining;
Jesus, Light of the World, shine upon us;
Set us free by the truth you now bring us.
Shine on me; shine on me.
Shine, Jesus, shine;
Fill this land with the Father's glory.
Blaze, Spirit, blaze;
Set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow;
Flood the nations with grace and mercy.
Send forth your word,
Lord, and let there be light.

Lord, I come to your awesome presence,
From the shadows into your radiance;
By the blood I may enter your brightness.
Search me; try me; consume all my darkness.
Shine on me; shine on me.

Shine, Jesus, shine;
Fill this land with the Father's glory.
Blaze, Spirit, blaze;
Set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow;
Flood the nations with grace and mercy.
Send forth your word,
Lord, and let there be light.

As we gaze on your kingly brightness,
So our faces display your likeness;
Ever changing from glory to glory,
Mirrored here may our lives tell your story.
Shine on me; shine on me.

Shine, Jesus, shine;
Fill this land with the Father's glory.
Blaze, Spirit, blaze;
Set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow;
Flood the nations with grace and mercy.
Send forth your word,
Lord, and let there be light.

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*