

Congregational Resourcing Event Morning Worship

Land Acknowledgment

Welcome

Gathering Blessing and Invocation

Blessed are you who work
In the shadow of the steeple
For the sake of those
Who are not yet here
And those who know nothing else,
Where faithful mission can be swallowed
By the business of the church.

You have seen the gospel
Tamed by our fear of what's next,
But you also know the holy power
Of many becoming together.

Blessed are you who work
Strange hours for the sake of
Those who gather,
Longing to be known by the One
We mention so casually.
Your quiet task is focused
On the details of each part
So that others may come and
Know the Whole Part all at once.

Song – *I Love to Tell the Story*

1 **I love to tell the story:
of unseen things above,
of Jesus and his glory,
of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story,
because I know it's true;
it satisfies my longings
as nothing else would do.**



Blessed are you who build trust
Where trust has been broken.

Blessed are you who are honest
About what has been hidden.

Blessed are you who do justice
Where sin has shattered peace.

Blessed are you who bear love
Where people seek grace.

Your labor is not in vain and
Your faith bears Christ to
All who come weary.

Welcome to you, in the ✝ name of God
Who creates, saves, and calls us
With grace that lasts forever. **Amen.**

Adapted from Speak It Plain by Meta Herrick Carlson

Refrain

**I love to tell the story;
I'll sing this theme in glory
and tell the old, old story
of Jesus and his love.**

2 I love to tell the story:
how pleasant to repeat
what seems, each time I tell it,
more wonderfully sweet!
I love to tell the story,
for some have never heard
the message of salvation
from God's own holy word. *Refrain*

3 I love to tell the story,
for those who know it best
seem hungering and thirsting
to hear it like the rest.
And when, in scenes of glory,
I sing the new, new song,
I'll sing the old, old story
that I have loved so long. *Refrain*

Unfinished Practice: Uncertainties

Consider your faith community. What has changed, what feels different, what is striving to be, but is not yet complete? What feels promising, and what needs letting go? What do you know about God's future, and what do you feel uncertain about?

Unfinished Practice: Openness to God's Word - Isaiah 58

As you hear the reading, notice how you are being called to be open in this moment. Holding this invitation to openness, we'll sing together. Sit comfortably. Hold your hands open in your lap. Sing. Breathe. Repeat. We'll open ourselves up to God's call in this place for each of us and for our time together

Unfinished Practice: Attentiveness

Where does my attention go as I look at this image? Where does it go? How do I feel? As I contemplate this image, what possibilities might exist if we gather with our attention in one place together, today, as the Body of Christ?

Blessing For Our Day

The liberty is loud
in this body forming
and being formed
by dust and breath.

I can hear the pressure of how
we've always done it that way
or the fear of loss underneath the
possibilities.

But there are murmurs
of expectation and longing
that rumble when we show up,
brand new and hungry.

Like an infant,
our stomach is small.
It is mostly the work of watching
and holding while we grow.

It is wonderful to be alive
with love and potential,
a gift lean and joyful for the world.

May God bless this body of Christ today
and all its incarnate,
the wonder of beginning
the becoming together.

Adapted from Speak It Plain by Meta Herrick Carlson

Song – Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am

**Take, oh, take me as I am;
summon out what I shall be;
set your seal upon my heart
and live in me.**

Congregational Resourcing Event

Afternoon Worship

Welcome

Song – *Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am*

Take, oh, take me as I am;
summon out what I shall be;
set your seal upon my heart
and live in me.



Unfinished Practice: Openness to God's Word – *Matthew 4:1-11*

As you hear the reading, notice how you are being called to be open in this moment. Holding this invitation to openness, we'll sing together. Sit comfortably. Hold your hands open in your lap. Sing. Breathe. Repeat. We'll open ourselves up to God's call in this place for each of us and for our time together.

Unfinished Practice: Call

We all have countless voices that call to us each day. Some are life-giving. Some are life draining. Some call to us in good and healthy ways. Others carry a message of harm. And still others are somewhere in between. Think of one voice that is speaking loudly in your congregation, our synod, or the church right now. Reflect silently about the role that this voice plays. Imagine texting this voice a message. What would you say? Commit this voice to God.

Song – *The Peace of the Lord*

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|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | The peace of the Lord, the peace of the Lord
the peace of the risen Lord Jesus:
the peace of the Lord is for you and for me,
and also for all of God's children.
The peace of the Lord is for you and for me,
and also for all of God's children. | 1 | La paz del Señor, la paz del Señor,
la paz del Resucitado:
la paz del Señor a ti y a mí,
a todos alcanzará;
la paz del Señor a ti y a mí,
a todos alcanzará. |
| 2 | The peace of the Lord, the peace of the Lord,
the peace of the risen Lord Jesus:
the peace of the Lord is among us right now,
so open yourselves to receive it.
The peace of the Lord is among us right now,
so open yourselves to receive it. | 2 | La paz del Señor, la paz del Señor,
la paz del Resucitado:
se hace presente ahora y aquí
apréstate a recibirla;
se hace presente ahora y aquí
apréstate a recibirla. |
| 3 | The peace of the Lord, the peace of the Lord,
the peace of the risen Lord Jesus:
the peace of the Lord kept within cannot live,
so open yourselves now to share it.
The peace of the Lord kept within cannot live,
so open yourselves now to share it. | 3 | La paz del Señor, la paz del Señor,
la paz del Resucitado:
no puede vivir encerrada en sí,
apréstate a compartirla;
no puede vivir encerrada en sí,
apréstate a compartirla. |

Unfinished Practice: Experience God's Presence – *Holy Communion*

Once you have received communion, take a moment and think about one intention that you will take out of this time and space we've experienced today. This intention can be for yourself, for others, or for your faith community. Write your intention on the post-it notes provided and take with you as you leave.

Song – One Bread, One Body

Refrain

**One bread, one body, one Lord of all;
one cup of blessing which we bless,
and we, though many throughout the earth,
we are one body in this one Lord.**

- 1 Gentile or Jew, servant or free,
woman or man, no more. *Refrain***
- 2 Many the gifts, many the works,
one in the Lord of all. *Refrain***
- 3 Grain for the fields, scattered and grown,
gathered to one for all. *Refrain***

Prayer

**O God, you have called your servants
to ventures of which we cannot see the ending,
by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown.
Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go,
but only that your hand is leading us
and your love supporting us;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Blessing As We Go

It is not only what you do,
But how you connect and love
That can transform a role or task
Into a gift from God.

God bless your showing up
And the details of your doing.

God bless your willingness
To fail and learn from the process.

God bless your humility and your humor
In the heart of what you do best.

God bless your duty and your job
For your community and your impact.

God bless your candor
About what really matters to you.

God bless your flexibility
About the details and outcome alike.

God bless your observations
About who else might be invited to help.

God bless your stepping back
So another can participate more fully.

God bless your openness
To a path of becoming together.

For these are the gifts of God.
And so are you.

Adapted from Speak It Plain by Meta Herrick Carlson

Benediction

Song – This Little Light of Mine

- 1 This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine; x3
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**
- 2 Ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine; x3
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**
- 3 Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine; x3
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

Sending