

Woden Valley Uniting Church



6 September
Season of Creation 1



GOD GATHERS US

The Gong is struck three times *to gather the people of God to be present in this time of worship*

Prelude *a time for quiet preparation*

Lighting the Community Candle

Acknowledgement of Country

Call to Worship

L: In the beginning, the Spirit of God hovered over the waters.
And God called them goo.

P: Come Holy spirit and cleanse the waters.

L: The prophet saw a river flowing from the Temple, and wherever the river flowed,
everything lived.

P: Come Holy spirit and renew the face of the Earth.

L: Jesus cries out, ' Let anyone who is thirsty come to me.. out of the believer's heart shall
flow rivers of living water.'

P: Come Holy Spirit and heal your people

Thanksgiving for the Waters

Worship Song TiS 156 Morning has broken

Prayer of Confession

Declaration of Forgiveness

...

Hear then Christ's word of grace to us:

Your sins are forgiven'.

Thanks be to God.

PROCLAIMING GODS WORD

Scripture reading

Holy One, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that, as the Scriptures are read and proclaimed, we may hear your word with joy.

First Reading: Ezekiel 47: 9-12

⁹ Wherever the river goes,^[a] every living creature that swarms will live, and there will be very many fish once these waters reach there. It will become fresh, and everything will live where the river goes. ¹⁰ People will stand fishing beside the sea^[b] from En-gedi to En-eglaim; it will be a place for the spreading of nets; its fish will be of a great many kinds, like the fish of the Great Sea. ¹¹ But its swamps and marshes will not become fresh; they are to be left for salt. ¹² On the banks, on both sides of the river, there will grow all kinds of trees for food. Their leaves will not wither nor their fruit fail, but they will bear fresh fruit every month, because the water for them flows from the sanctuary. Their fruit will be for food and their leaves for healing."

L: May the Word, as living water,

P: Make everything live.

Psalm 149

Praise the Source of life!

Sing to the Holy One a new song.

Praise the one we name God among the communion of saints.

Let the people of God rejoice in their creator.

Let them praise the Source of all that is with dance,

and celebrate with musical instruments,

because God delights in them,

and adorns the despairing with welfare.

Let all the saints jump for joy;

let them cry out with gladness where they rest.

Let high praises of Divine be in their throats:

word and song that overcome injustice,

*binding rulers in chains and the powerful in iron shackles;
bringing justice to them, and honour to all God's faithful.
Praise the Source of all that is!*

Gospel Reading John 7: 37- 39

Rivers of Living Water

³⁷ On the last day of the festival, the great day, while Jesus was standing there, he cried out, "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, ³⁸ and let the one who believes in me drink. As^[a] the scripture has said, 'Out of the believer's heart^[b] shall flow rivers of living water.' " ³⁹ Now he said this about the Spirit, which believers in him were to receive, for as yet there was no Spirit^[c] because Jesus was not yet glorified.

L: May the Word, as living water

P: make everything live.

Reflection

An Affirmation of Faith

We believe in God, who creates all things, who embraces all things, who celebrates all things, who is present in every part of the fabric of creation.

We believe in God as the source of all life, who baptizes this planet with living water.

We believe in Jesus Christ, the suffering one, the poor one, the malnourished one, the climate refugee.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the breath of God, who moves with God and who moves among and with us today.

We believe in everlasting life in God.

And we believe in the hope that one day God will put an end to death and all destructive forces.

(Gurukul Theological College India)

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Offering

Prayers of the People

CELEBRATING THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

TiS 538 Feed us now

Prayers for preparation

Great prayer of thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

....

And so in harmony with the cosmos, we join our voices to the songs of praise of all your creatures both in heaven and on earth we join in one great act of awe and adoration:

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of power and might

Heaven and earth are full of your glory:

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna is the highest.

.....

So we proclaim the mystery of faith

Christ has died

Christ is risen

Christ will come again

The Lord's Prayer (from New Zealand Prayer Book)

Eternal Spirit, Earth -maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.

**From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.**

**For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and for ever.
Amen.**

**Communion
(During the communion sing TiS 714 Eat this bread)**

Closing Hymn TiS 668 Touch the earth lightly

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Blessing Song

The peace of the earth be with you,
The peace of the heavens too;
The peace of the rivers be with you,
The peace of the ocean too.
Deep peace falling over you;
God's peace growing in you.

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