

Thanksgiving Service Order of Worship

November 24, 2020, 7PM via Zoom Meetings

Prelude – *via CD*

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

We come, for God gathers us here,
with that community called faith:

**where the hungry are served first,
where the thirsty drink life's water.**

We come, for God welcomes us here
into that home called grace:

**where the naked are clothed in robes of hope;
where the stranger is embraced as the long-lost prodigal.**

We come, for God reunites us here,
sisters and brothers in that family called love:

**where the imprisoned model justice,
where the sick are cradled in God's peace.**

(~ written by Thom Shuman, and posted on Lectionary Liturgies website. <http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/2008/11/reign-of-christ.html>)

Passing the Peace

Worship in Song *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty* (UMH #139)

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for He is thy health and salvation.
All ye who hear, Now to His temple, draw near;
Join me in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord, who doth nourish thy life and restore thee,
Fitting thee well for the tasks that are ever before thee.
Then to thy need, God as a mother doth speed,
Spreading the wings of grace o'er thee.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him.
Let the Amen sound from His people again:
Gladly forever adore Him.

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Words: Joachim Neander, Music: Erneueren Gesangbuch

Prayer of Confession

God of love, you created us to love you and one another. We confess that we have sometimes limited that love to words, and failed to make that love real by our actions. We have failed to recognize Christ in the hungry, the thirsty, the homeless, the naked, the incarcerated and the sick. Too often, we have turned away from your presence, failing to share what we have with our brothers and sisters in need. Forgive us. Turn our hearts, and guide us to follow in your ways anew.

Words of Assurance

Leader: Our God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

All: God is good to all, and has compassion for all creation.

(https://www.ucc.org/oghs_2017_worship_resources)

The 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass 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.

Litany

O God of promises, you remind us again and again that you are present with your people. When our hearts are broken,

All: You are here.

When we wait in worry to hear about a diagnosis,

All: You are here.

When we lose the ones we love,

All: You are here.

Where anyone is hungry or thirsty,

All: You are here.

When we feel like strangers,

All: You are here.

Where anyone is sick or in need of care and company,

All: You are here.

When people are in prison,

All: You are here.

When anyone needs clothing,

All: You are here.

Loving God, You are here with us when we suffer. Empower us to be with others as they suffer, our neighbors both near and far. You are here, God, in the midst of suffering—and we want to be where you are.

All: Amen.

(Source: Church of the Brethren, <http://www.brethren.org/offerings/onegreathourofsharing/documents/2017/worship-resource-booklet.pdf>)

Scripture Psalm 95:1-7a, Luke 17:11-19

Message "Where are the Other Nine?" *Pastor Howie Snyder*

Charge & Benediction

We worship God in sanctuaries, in our homes, in nature, in beautiful, holy spaces. But Christ has told us that if we want to find him in this world, we will seek out the lost, the least of his brothers and sisters—those who are hungry, thirsty, sick, in prison, naked and estranged. May we go out this evening with eyes open to seeing Christ in our world, and may we know God's love by loving one another. May we love, not just in word and speech, but in truth and action.

"Christ Has No Body," – Teresa of Avila

Christ has no body now on earth but yours; no hands but yours; no feet but yours. Yours are the eyes through which the compassion of Christ must look out on the world. Yours are the feet with which He is to go about doing good. Yours are the hands with which He is to bless His people.

(adapted from, https://www.ucc.org/oghs_2017_worship_resources)

Postlude *Trading My Sorrows*