



Collaboration

Week 2

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

The Call

[music begins to underscore]

Leader: The first thing Jesus did, in every version of the story we have about him, was to go out and find other people to come with him. Twelve disciples, called right from the beginning—not to worship Jesus or to promote his reputation, but to walk right beside him, to learn everything he knew, to do the same things he did. He sent them out, early and often, to practice healing and teaching, just like he was doing. They didn't always get it right. Sometimes they got busy, or distracted, or afraid. Often, they forgot the instructions.

[sung]

In my dreams I can fly
and I soar
and my feet touch the sky
and it seems I can go anywhere if I try

and the world's not so dark
when the clouds make it white
If there's no hope
tell me why
in my dreams I can fly

Jesus didn't do this work alone and you can't, either. The key thing Jesus did when starting ministry was to gather a group of people, a team of disciples. He didn't do it alone but in collaboration. Partnerships and joining others are essential parts of changemaking. Like the African proverb: "If you want to go fast, do it alone. If you want to go far, do it together."

[sung]
In our dreams we can fly
and we soar
and our feet touch the sky
and it seems we can go anywhere if we try
and the world's not so dark
when the clouds make it white
If there's no hope
tell us why
in our dreams we can fly

The world needs to change, and that can make us want to go to our room and hide.
Because there is so much that needs to be done.

Pain needs to be acknowledged.

Reparations must be made. Justice must be done. That feels like a lot.
And so, we must remember that we are not called to be changemakers on our own.

We are called together.

We are called in community, and we are called alongside people of faith and goodwill around the world. The world needs to change, but we will not change it alone.

We are called together, and vested with the power of the Holy Spirit.

We are called to follow the way of Jesus.

We are the changemakers, and we are getting ready!

May we be changed by this time of worship!

We Sing

"Welcome" #3152

"Lord, You Give the Great Commission" #584

PROCLAIMING

A Story about Collaboration

Luke 10:1-11 (CEB)

Reader: After these things, the Lord commissioned seventy-two others and sent them on ahead in pairs to every city and place he was about to go. He said to them, “The harvest is bigger than you can imagine, but there are few workers. Therefore, plead with the Lord of the harvest to send out workers for his harvest. Go! Be warned, though, that I’m sending you out as lambs among wolves. Carry no wallet, no bag, and no sandals. Don’t even greet anyone along the way. Whenever you enter a house, first say, ‘May peace be on this house.’ If anyone there shares God’s peace, then your peace will rest on that person. If not, your blessing will return to you. Remain in this house, eating and drinking whatever they set before you, for workers deserve their pay. Don’t move from house to house. Whenever you enter a city and its people welcome you, eat what they set before you. Heal the sick who are there, and say to them, ‘God’s kingdom has come upon you.’ Whenever you enter a city and the people don’t welcome you, go out into the streets and say, ‘As a complaint against you, we brush off the dust of your city that has collected on our feet. But know this: God’s kingdom has come to you.’”

Children’s Time

“Be a Changemaker” by AI Start (chorus only - in your downloads)

[music is played and sung by choir or congregation as the children come up]

**We can be a changemaker,
change the world.
Make a better place for everyone!
Changemaker!
Just one small change
can make a difference every day
make a difference every day!**

[see full scripts in Children’s Time document in your downloads]

The Word in Music (choir, band, or video)

“Together We Serve” #2175

Lectio Divina

Mark 6:30-44 (The Message)

[rather than various biblical interpretations, you could also choose to have someone (perhaps various generations) retell it in their own words... see the small group study guide for suggestions about this kind of preparation]

Leader: Last week, we began reading another scripture that we will hear every week of this series. It is the story of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes from the Gospel of Mark. We are hearing various versions of the story in order to discover something new each week about the nature of changemaking. Repeating a scripture multiple times is an ancient Christian tradition called “lectio divina.” Hear now another version of this story:

Reader: The apostles then rendezvoused with Jesus and reported on all that they had done and taught. Jesus said, “Come off by yourselves; let’s take a break and get a little rest.” For there was constant coming and going. They didn’t even have time to eat. So they got in the boat and went off to a remote place by themselves. Someone saw them going and the word got around. From the surrounding towns people went out on foot, running, and got there ahead of them. When Jesus arrived, he saw this huge crowd. At the sight of them, his heart broke—like sheep with no shepherd they were. He went right to work teaching them.

When his disciples thought this had gone on long enough—it was now quite late in the day—they interrupted: “We are a long way out in the country, and it’s very late. Pronounce a benediction and send these folks off so they can get some supper.”

Jesus said, “You do it. Fix supper for them.”

They replied, “Are you serious? You want us to go spend a fortune on food for their supper?”

But he was quite serious. “How many loaves of bread do you have? Take an inventory.”

That didn’t take long. “Five,” they said, “plus two fish.”

Jesus got them all to sit down in groups of fifty or a hundred—they looked like a patchwork quilt of wildflowers spread out on the green grass! He took the five loaves and two fish, lifted his face to heaven in prayer, blessed, broke, and gave the bread to

the disciples, and the disciples in turn gave it to the people. He did the same with the fish. They all ate their fill. The disciples gathered twelve baskets of leftovers. More than five thousand were at the supper.

The Word Proclaimed

“Collaboration” by Rev. Amy Beth

Post Message Song

“Make Me a Channel of Your Peace” #2171

RESPONDING

Prayers of the People

Passing the Peace

Announcements

Testimony to Changemaking

Offertory

Doxology

“Let Us Be Makers” v 3

[sung to the tune of “Blessed Assurance”]

**Praise to the Maker, the One who gives breath.
Praise to Christ Jesus, who reigns over death.
Praise to the Spirit, our strength and our friend.
Three-in-One present, world without end.**

Communion

Great Thanksgiving

Our Lord be with you
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts, friends.
We lift them up now.
Let us give thanks to the Changemaking One.
We lift up our praises, God, Spirit and Son!

[piano underscoring may continue]

[spoken]

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere, to give thanks to you,
Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth.
You formed us in your image,
and breathed into us the breath of life.
When we turned away, and our love failed,
your love remained steadfast.
You delivered us from captivity,
made covenant to be our sovereign God,
and spoke to us through your prophets.

And so,
with your people on earth
and all the company of heaven,
we delight in your name and join their unending hymn:

"Let Us Be Makers" v 4

[sung to the tune of "Blessed Assurance"]

**Holy are you, God, with power and might.
Heaven and earth fill with glory and light.
Sing we hosanna, we come in your name.
Sing we hosanna, the saints sing the same.**

[spoken]

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him, we find our purpose,
seeking to serve his purposes in our lives.
Your Spirit anointed him to bring change for those who needed it most:
to preach good news to the poor,
to proclaim release to the captives

and recovering of sight to the blind,
to set at liberty those who are oppressed,
and to announce that the time had come
when you would save your people.
He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners.

By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection,
you gave birth to your church,
delivered us from slavery to sin and death,
and made with us a new covenant
by water and the Spirit.

When the Lord Jesus ascended,
he promised to be with us always,
in the power of your Word and Holy Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us,
he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread,
gave it to his disciples, and said:
“Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.”

When the supper was over, he took the cup,
gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:

“Drink from this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
poured out for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.”

And so,
in remembrance of your wonder-filled acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves for changemaking as a holy and living sacrifice,
in union with Christ’s offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,
so that we may be for the world the body of Christ,
redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit, seal our connection with Christ,

our connection with each other,
and our connection to all the world through our ministry
until Christ comes in final victory
and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ
with the Holy Spirit in your holy church,
all honor and glory is yours, almighty God,
now and forever.

Amen.

[bread is broken and cup is poured as the congregation sings]

"Let Us Be Makers" v 5

[sung to the tune of "Blessed Assurance"]

**Praise to the Maker, the One who gives breath.
Praise to Christ Jesus, who reigns over death.
Praise to the Spirit, our strength and our friend.
Three-in-One present, world without end.**

Communion Hymn

"A Place at the Table" #3149

GOING OUT IN THE WORLD

Changemaker Blessing

Blessed are the changemakers.
Blessed are you who are not asleep
to the world's pain and suffering.
Blessed are you who lament for the way things are.
Blessed are you who know, to the depth of your bones,
that this is not how things are meant to be.
Blessed are you for not believing the lie that
this is how they will always remain.
Blessed are you who know that things can change,
who long for things to change.
Blessed are you whose life's ambition is to bring the change
that is justice and mercy for all.
Blessed are you who know that God has always employed the faithful acts
of ordinary people to heal and change this world.

Blessed are you who know that change begins today,
change begins with us,
and that we are blessed to be the changemakers.
Let the people say... **Amen!**

Song for Soaring: Circle Song

"Have Thine Own Way, Lord" v1 & 4

Dismissal

Now go into the world,
risking something big for something good.
Know that community is a vital resource for survival,
and that by working together, we can do great things.
And know that your passion will emerge from the nest
when the time is right... and fly!

Postlude

"Lead Me Lord"