

Prelude

Welcome

Opening Words

Response: Open our hearts and minds

Here we are. We have come with questions, with hopes and dreams.

Open our hearts and minds

Like those who have come before us, we yearn for some good news.

Open our hearts and minds

As we worship – singing songs and hearing sacred text

Open our hearts and minds

Here we are. Work in and through us.

Open our hearts and minds

Opening Hymn Hymnal # 575 “O For a World”

Prayer of Invocation adapted from 99 Prayers (60)

God, who never sleeps or slacks:

Each day, there are new, exciting opportunities for us to join you in your love and labor: crafting, cultivating, and cheering on your kin-dom vision.

We give thanks, O God, that you share your kin-dom vision with us.

You not only share your vision for kin-dom, love, and labor with us: You empower, equip, and embolden us as partners to imagine new possibilities for justice within our own community.

You invite us to love and serve alongside our neighbors as compassionate allies, committed advocates, and dear friends.

We have heard your call to serve as partners with you and our neighbors.

Challenge us to make a commitment to new justice work within our community.

Gracious God, it our holy and humble prayer that your way be revealed, your work be accomplished and your will be done. Amen

Musical Response: Black Binder #21 “What Does the Lord Require of You?”

Children’s Time

Word in Song: Intergenerational Summer Choir

Sacred Reading:

Luke 10:25-37

An expert on the law stood up to put Jesus to the test and said, “Teacher, what must I do to inherit everlasting life?”

Jesus answered, “What is written in the law? How do you read it?”

The expert on the Law replied: “You must love the Most High God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself.”

Jesus said, “You have answered correctly. Do this and you’ll live.”

But the expert on the law, seeking self-justification, pressed Jesus further: “And just who is my neighbor?”

Jesus replied, “There was a traveler going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, who fell prey to robbers. The traveler was beaten, stripped naked, and left half-dead. A priest happened to be going down the same road; the priest saw the traveler lying beside the road, but passed by on the other side. Likewise there was a Levite who came the same way; this one, too, saw the afflicted traveler and passed by on the other side.

But a Samaritan, who was taking the same road, also came upon the traveler and, filled with compassion, approached the traveler and dressed the wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then the Samaritan put the wounded person on a donkey, went straight to an inn and there took care of the injured one. The next day the Samaritan took out two silver pieces and gave them to the innkeeper with the request, ‘Look after this person, and if there is any further expense, I’ll repay you on the way back.’

Which one of these three, in your opinion, was the neighbor to the traveler who fell in with the robbers?”

The answer came, “The one who showed compassion.”

Jesus replied, "Then go and do the same."

For the wisdom contained in these holy words we give thanks. Amen.

Sermon Rev. Wendy Bruner

Hymn Black Binder #22 "Who Is My Neighbor"

Prayers of the People (Lord's Prayer in front of binder)

Reception of New Members

One: Let us, the members and friends of Peace United Church of Christ, express our welcome and affirm our mutual ministry.

Many: **We welcome you with joy in the common life of this church. We covenant with you to equip one another for the work to which we feel called:
striving for peace and justice among all people, protecting and restoring the integrity of all God's creation, and bringing hope to those most vulnerable.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Gracious God, you have once again shown us your love by bringing us to this meal.

We go from here renewed in faith,
renewed in courage,
and strengthened by your presence.

Thank you for loving us so tenderly.

Thank you for challenging us
to know you better and to receive you more fully. Amen

How Shall We Do God's Work in the World

Black Binder #20 "This Little Light of Mine"

Stewardship Moment

Prayer of Dedication

Gracious God, we give thanks.
We ask your blessings on these gifts of time,
talent, and treasure as we use them to do
God's work in the world. Amen

Hymn Hymnal #498 "Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love"

Benediction

Postlude