

Prelude

Welcome

Opening Words

Response: We are filled with Hope

On those days when the world seems to be toppling, we remember the words of creation: it is very good...

We are filled with Hope

When the burdens of our life lay heavy on our hearts, we hear the story of the birds of the air and the lilies of the field...

We are filled with Hope

When the day breaks with such beauty it takes our breath away...

We are filled with Hope

And when we gather together, a community bursting with a vision of shalom

We are filled with Hope

Opening Hymn Binder #45 “God of Grace”

Let us pray

Ruth C. Duck

Gracious God, bless us,
And make your face shine on us,
That your way may be known on earth,
And your saving power among all nations.
Praise be to you from all the peoples, O God. Amen

Musical response: Hymnal #283 “Spirit of the Living God”

Children’s Time

Word in Song: Youth Choir

Sacred Reading:
Acts 4: 32-35

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Reading "I have come into this world to see this" ~*Hafiz*

I have come into this world to see this:
the sword drop from men's hands even at the height
of their arc of anger
because we have finally realized there is just one flesh to wound
and it is His - the Christ's, our
Beloved's.

I have come into this world to see this: all creatures hold hands as
we pass through this miraculous existence we share on the way
to even a greater being of soul,
a being of just ecstatic light, forever entwined and at play
with Him.

I have come into this world to hear this:
every song the earth has sung since it was conceived in
the Divine's womb and began spinning from
His wish,
every song by wing and fin and hoof,
every song by hill and field and tree and woman and child,
every song of stream and rock,
every song of tool and lyre and flute,
every song of gold and emerald
and fire,
every song the heart should cry with magnificent dignity

to know itself as

God:

for all other knowledge will leave us again in want and aching -
only imbibing the glorious Sun
will complete us.

I have come into this world to experience this:

men so true to love
they would rather die before speaking
an unkind
word,

men so true their lives are His covenant -
the promise of
hope.

I have come into this world to see this:

the sword drop from men's hands
even at the height of
their arc of
rage

because we have finally realized
there is just one flesh
we can wound.

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

Sermon Rev. Wendy Bruner

Hymn Hymnal #448 "Take My Life, God, Let It Be"

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

How Shall We Do God's Work in the World

Hymnal #2 "Glory, Glory Hallelujah" verses 1-4

Prayer of Dedication (in front of binder)

Gracious God, we give thanks.

We ask your blessings on these gifts of time,
talent, and treasure as we use them to do

Your work in the world. Amen

Hymn Binder #32 “Blessed Be the Tie That Binds”

Benediction

Postlude