

Prelude

Welcome

Opening Words

One: For the wonders of this earth and all of creation

Many: O Be Thankful

One: For a community that is challenged to work toward God's dream for the world

Many: O Be Thankful

One: For the love of those who surround and support us.

Many: O Be Thankful

One: For each breath we take in and for this day before us.

Many: O Be Thankful

One: We come to this place filled with gratitude and love for you oh Holy One.
Let us worship with gladness and thanksgiving.

Opening Hymn Hymnal #422 "Come, O Thankful People, Come"

Prayer of Invocation (Worship Ways)

Holy and righteous God, you still speak to us. We listen and respond to your glorious power, ready to worship you in word and deed, joyfully giving thanks, for you have enabled us to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. Amen.

Musical Response: Binder #59 "Give Thanks"

Children's Time

Word in Song:

Handchimes

Sacred Reading

Psalm 136:1-9, 26

O give thanks to God, for God is good,
for God's steadfast love endures forever.

O give thanks to the God of gods,
for God's steadfast love endures forever.

O give thanks to the Lord of lords,
for God's steadfast love endures forever;

who alone does great wonders,
for God's steadfast love endures forever;

who by understanding made the heavens,
for God's steadfast love endures forever;

who spread out the earth on the waters,
for God's steadfast love endures forever;

who made the great lights,
for God's steadfast love endures forever;

the sun to rule over the day,
for God's steadfast love endures forever;

the moon and stars to rule over the night,
for God's steadfast love endures forever;

O give thanks to the God of heaven,
for God's steadfast love endures forever.

"Our True Heritage" *Thich Nhat Hanh*

The cosmos is filled with precious gems.
I want to offer a handful of them to you this morning.
Each moment you are alive is a gem,
shining through and containing earth and sky,
water and clouds.

It needs you to breathe gently
for the miracles to be displayed.
Suddenly you hear the birds singing,
the pines chanting,
see the flowers blooming,
the blue sky,
the white clouds,
the smile and the marvelous look
of your beloved.

You, the richest person on Earth,
who have been going around begging for a living,
stop being the destitute child.

Come back and claim your heritage.
We should enjoy our happiness
and offer it to everyone.
Cherish this very moment.
Let go of the stream of distress
and embrace life fully in your arms.

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

Sermon Jen Einspahr

Hymn Hymnal #28 “For the Beauty of the Earth”

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

Communion

Minister: As we gather around the table to be nourished
by this meal we remember that this is not our
table this is God’s table and that means all are
welcome at this table. The bread is gluten free
and there is grape juice in the cup.

Gathering around the table as we celebrate
life together we remember so many stories
shared around tables;

Liturgist: Tables where bread is broken and cup is
poured out, where families gather and
generations share, where stories are
remembered, refined, reshaped.

Minister: Gathering around the table this morning,
we break the bread and
touch the mystery that in our brokenness
we become whole;

Liturgist: We fill the cup and remember
the abundance discovered in each new sharing

of our sacred stories. Together, around the table, we pray:

Many: Come, Holy Spirit, come.
Bless this bread and bless this fruit of the vine.
Bless all of us in our eating and drinking
that our eyes might be opened,
that we might recognize the risen Christ
in our midst, indeed, in one another.
Come, Holy Spirit, come.

Communion Response Binder #60 “Know That God Is Good” “Mungu ni mwema”

Let us pray with 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

“Siyahamba” Hymnal #529

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 Hymnal #419 “Now Thank We All Our God”

Benediction

Postlude