

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 "Gather Us In" Binder #17

Prayer of Invocation (adapted from Ruth Duck)

God of the open door; we thank you that you receive us as we are and call us to welcome one another. Through you Spirit of holiness, open wide our hearts and break open your word, that you may inspire and guide this time together. Through image and movement, sound and story, may we honor your presence in our lives and in one another. Amen.

Musical Response: "Give Thanks" Binder #59

Children's Time

Word in Song:

Youth Choir

Sacred Reading

Luke 18:9-14

Jesus spoke this parable addressed to those who believed in their own self-righteousness while holding everyone else in contempt:

“Two people went up to the Temple to pray; one was a Pharisee, the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed like this:

‘I give you thanks, O God, that I’m not like others – greedy, crooked, adulterous – or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week. I pay tithes on everything I earn.’

The other one, however, kept a distance, not even daring to look up to heaven. In real humility, all the tax collector said was,

‘O God, be merciful to me, a sinner.’

Believe me, the tax collector went home from the Temple right with God, while the Pharisee didn’t. For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, while those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

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

Sermon Rev. Wendy Bruner

Hymn “Amazing Grace” All verses except verse 4 Hymnal #547

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 “Know That God Is Good” “Mungu ni mwema” Binder #460

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 “Sing Praise to God, Our Highest Good” Hymnal #6

Benediction

Postlude