

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:

Chancel 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)

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