Welcome

Opening Words
One: You created us to participate in your dream for the world.
Many: We hear your call.

One: You created us in your image – in your divine image.
Many: We hear your call.

One: You blessed us and then demanded we take care of the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky and all animals that crawl on this globe orbiting the sun.
Many: We hear your call.

One: You told us that the plants that covered the earth were also ours to care for.
Many: We hear your call.

One: That’s what happened. You saw everything you made, and it was supremely good.
Many: We hear your call.

One: You called us from the beginning as you formed life from chaos. You called us.
Many: We hear your call.

Opening Response "Make Us One"
Carol Cymbala
Prayer of Invocation  Maren C. Tirabassi
Gracious Redeemer, we come in our times of indecision. We do not know where to turn; we do not know how to stand; we do not know what to choose. Set our feet now upon your paths, incline our hearts to your call, give us new opportunity to decide for your ways. Be with us, faithful God, in this hour of worship and commitment and in all our hours. Amen.

Word in Song  Sue Clauss “The Promised Land”
Matilada T. Durham Shape Note Hymn, Samuel Stennett Text
Published in William Walker’s Southern Harmony and Musical Companion 1854

Sacred Text
Genesis 1: 26-2:1  Common English Bible

Then God said, “Let us make humanity in our image to resemble us so that they may take charge of the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, the livestock, all the earth, and all the crawling things on earth.”

God created humanity in God’s own image, in the divine image God created them.

God blessed them and said to them, “Be fertile and multiply; fill the earth and master it. Take charge of the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, and everything crawling on the ground.”

Then God said, “I now give to you all the plants on the earth that yield seeds and all the trees whose fruit produces its seeds within it. These will be your food. To all wildlife, to all the birds of the sky, and to everything crawling on the ground – to everything that breathes – I give all the green grasses for food.” And that’s what happened. God saw everything God had made: it was supremely good.

There was evening and there was morning: the sixth day.

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

Sermon  Rev. Wendy Bruner
Hymn “All Things Bright and Beautiful”
Tune: Royal Oak

**Refrain**

All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful, our dear God made them all.
Each little flower that opens, each purple-headed mountain, the cold wind in the winter, the little bird that sings, God made their glowing rivers running by, the pleasant summer sun, the ripe fruits in the colors, and made their tiny wings.
Morning that brightens up the sky.
Garden, God made them everyone.

**Joys and Concerns**

**Prayer**
Creator, who art in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors,
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For yours is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.
Communion

Prayer:  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.

Pray 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 Join God’s Work in the World
  Gracious God, we give thanks.
  We ask your blessings on these gifts of time,
talent, and treasure as we use them to join
Your work in the world. Amen

Closing
Postlude “Laudation”
  Gilbert Martin
  Lorenz Publishing Copywrite 1970

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