



Prelude Loretta Haggard
"Fantaisie" Gabriel Faure'
Copyright 1995 Mel Bay Publications

Welcome

Opening Words adapted Maren C. Tirabassi

One: We are here in these difficult times. We come to you for a moment of quiet in our self-made busyness.

Many: We listen for your voice.

One: We come to you for energy in our weariness. We come to you for challenge when we are willing to settle for our own small plans and dreams.

Many: We listen for your voice.

One: We long for the peace of your presence, even as we are afraid of the urgency of your call.

Many: We listen for your voice.

One: Enter, Spirit of God, into each of our lives and enliven us; enter, Spirit of God, into our community and enable us to love and serve you and all your children. **Amen**

Opening Hymn NCH #32 "God of the Sparrow" Verses 1, 4, 5, and 6

Prayer of Invocation

Gracious and loving God. There are days when the chaos of the world seems to reign, and despair closes in on us. We feel alone and without hope. Bring us peace. Bring us calm. Beckon us in the silence. Lead us in your way of compassion and peace. With thanksgiving for your steadfast love and faithful presence in and among us we pray.
Amen

Opening Response Binder #29 "Come and Fill Our Hearts"

Children's Time

The Witness of Music Loretta Haggard
"Meditation from *Thais*"
Copyright 2016 Schott Music

Readings:

1 Kings 19:1-4, 8-15a

Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, 'So may the gods do to me, and more also, if I do not make your life like the life of one of them by this time tomorrow.' Then Elijah was afraid; he got up and fled for his life, and came to Beer-sheba, which belongs to Judah; he left his servant there.

But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: 'It is enough; now, O Holy One, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors.' He got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food for forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God. At that place he came to a cave, and spent the night there.

Then the word of the Holy One came to him, saying, 'What are you doing here, Elijah?' He answered, 'I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.'

The Holy One said, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the Holy One, for the God is about to pass by.'

Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the Holy One, but God was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but God was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but God was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence.

When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, 'What are you doing here, Elijah?' He answered, 'I have been very zealous for the Holy One the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.' Then the Holy One said to him, 'Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus.'

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

Sermon Rev. Dr. Wendy Bruner

Hymn Binder #4 "Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness"

Joys and Concerns

Prayer

Creator, who art in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kin-dom 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 kin-dom, and the power,
and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

How shall we join God's work in the world?

Gracious God, we give thanks and ask your blessings on the many and diverse gifts we
bring to join you in your work in the world.

Closing Hymn NCH #311 "Renew Your Church"

Benediction

Postlude "Pipings" James Southbridge
Copyright 1991 Lorenz Publishing

Reprinted/podcast/streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE [#A-704973](#). All rights reserved.