

Community Prayers and the Prayer of Jesus as reimagined by Bee Lake

Forever Oneness,
who sings to us in silence,
who teaches us through each other.
Guide my steps with strength and wisdom.
May I see the lessons as I walk,
honor the Purpose of all things.
Help me touch with respect,
always speak from behind my eyes.
Let me observe, not judge.
May I cause no harm,
and leave music and beauty after my visit.
When I return to forever
may the circle be closed
and the spiral be broader.

Choral Amen

Sharing Our Gifts

Simple Gifts

#31 P&W

*'Tis the gift to be simple,
'tis the gift to be free,
'tis the gift to come down where you ought
to be,
And when we find ourselves in the place
just right,
It will be in the valley of love and delight.*

*Refrain:
When true simplicity is gained,
To bow and to bend we shan't be ashamed.
To turn, turn will be our delight,
'Til by turning, turning we come round right*

Offertory

*Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God all creatures here below,
Praise God above ye heavenly host,
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost! Amen!**

*Prayer of Dedication

*Closing Song

For the Beauty of the Earth

#28 NCH

*For the beauty of the earth, for the splendor of the skies,
For the love which from our birth over and around us lies,
God of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.
For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light,
God of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.
For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,
Friends on earth, and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild,
God of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.
For the good that love inspires, for a world where none excludes,
For a faith that never tires, and for every heart renewed,
God of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.*

*Choral Benediction

The Lord Bless You and Keep You

*Postlude

Foxhunter's Slip Jig, trad.

Assisting in Today's Service:

Laurie Berner, Pam Kramer, and Mike Swanoski, Ushers
Cindy Macaulay, Greeter

Tent Show Band: Carrie Kelsey and Sophia Farell, violins; Cyndi Brown, flute; Cathy Ameel, harp;
Diane Swanoski, accordion; Ian Connell, Mike Swanoski, and Dan O'Neill, guitars; Matt Prois, bass;
John Bankson, banjo, Ron Deters, harmonica
Koren Sjelin and Andrew Holmstrom, Nursery Attendants
Loni Cran-Hovis, Marsha Hystead, Cameron Herrity, and Mary Wergeland, Coffee Hour Volunteers

Peace United Church of Christ
Thanksgiving Lessons & Carols
November 23rd, 2025
10:30am



Sacred Life, Sarah Holst

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Prelude Gordon’s Favorite, trad. The Tent Show Band

Welcome and Announcements

Ringling of the Bells

*Call to Worship from Psalm 100

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth,
Worship the Lord with gladness; come into God’s presence with singing!
Enter God’s gates with thanksgiving, and God’s courts with praise.
Give thanks to God, bless God’s name!
One: For the Lord is good; God’s steadfast love endures forever,
And God’s faithfulness to all generations.

*Song Come, Ye Thankful People, Come #422 NCH

***Come, O thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home;
all is safely gathered in as the winter storms begin;
God our Maker does provide for our wants to be supplied;
come to God’s own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.***
***All the blessings of the field, all the stores the gardens yield,
all the fruits in full supply, ripened 'neath the summer sky,
All that spring with bounteous hand scatters o'er the smiling land,
all that liberal autumn pours from its rich o'er flowing stores,***
***These to you, our God, we owe, source from whom all blessings flow;
and for these our songs we raise, grateful vows and solemn praise.***
***Come, then, thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home;
come to God’s own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.***

*Prayer of Thanksgiving from The Book of Common Prayer

Let us give thanks to God for all God’s gifts so freely bestowed upon us. For the beauty and wonder of your creation, in earth and sky and sea.
We thank you, God.
For all that is gracious in the lives of people, revealing the image of Christ,
We thank you, God.
For our daily food and drink, our homes and families, and our friends,
We thank you, God.
For minds to think, and hearts to love, and hands to serve,
We thank you, God.
For health and strength to work, and leisure to rest and play,
We thank you, God.
For the brave and courageous, who are patient in suffering and faithful in adversity,
We thank you, God.
For all valiant seekers after truth, liberty, and justice,
We thank you, God.
For the communion of saints, in all times and places,
We thank you, God.
Above all, we give you thanks for the great mercies and promises given to us in Christ Jesus our Lord;
To Christ be praise and glory, with you, O God, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

*Passing of the Peace

Story for All Ages Amanda McElray Hunter

Sending the Children

***Jesus calls us in, sends us out bearing fruit in a world of doubt,
Gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Immanuel) everywhere!
Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound!
Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves***

Thanksgiving Lessons & Carols

Song The Lone, Wild Bird #31 P&W

***The lone, wild bird in lofty flight
is still with you, nor leaves your sight.
And I am yours! I rest in you,
Great Spirit, come, and rest in me.***
***The ends of earth are in your hand,
the sea's dark deep and far off land.
And I am yours! I rest in you,
Great Spirit, come, rest in me.***

Reading For This I Am Grateful, Dan Ennis Darlene Leafgren, reader

Choir Anthem How Lovely are the Messengers, Felix Mendelssohn

Reading Thanksgiving: A Native American View, Jacqueline Keeler Betty Greene, reader

Song The Canticle of the Turning v.1 & 4

***My soul cries out with a joyful shout
that the God of my heart is great,
And my spirit sings of the Wondrous things
That you bring to the ones who wait
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight
And my weakness you did not spurn
So from east to west shall my name be blest
Could the world be about to turn?***

***Though the nations rage from age to age
We remember Who holds us fast
God's mercy must deliver us
from the conqueror's crushing grasp
This saving word that out forebears
Heard is the promise which holds us bound
'Til the spear and rod can be Crushed by
God Who is turning the world around.***

Reading Psalm 9 Patty Beech-Dziuk, reader

I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart;
I will tell of all your wonderful deeds.
I will be glad and exult in you;
I will sing praise to your name, O Most High.

When my enemies turned back,
they stumbled and perished before you.
For you have maintained my just cause;
you have sat on the throne giving righteous judgment.

You have rebuked the nations; you have destroyed the wicked;
you have blotted out their name forever and ever.
The enemies have vanished in everlasting ruins;
their cities you have rooted out;
the very memory of them has perished.

But the Lord sits enthroned forever;
God has established their throne for judgment.
God judges the world with righteousness;
God judges the peoples with equity.

The Lord is a stronghold for the oppressed,
a stronghold in times of trouble.
And those who know your name put their trust in you,
for you, O Lord, have not forsaken those who seek you.

Sing praises to the Lord, who dwells in Zion.
Declare God’s deeds among the peoples.
For the One who avenges blood is mindful of them;
God does not forget the cry of the afflicted.

Be gracious to me, O Lord.
See what I suffer from those who hate me;
you are the one who lifts me up from the gates of death,
so that I may recount all your praises
and, in the gates of daughter Zion,
rejoice in your deliverance.

The nations have sunk in the pit that they made;
in the net that they hid has their own foot been caught.
God has made themselves known; God has executed judgment;
the wicked are snared in the work of their own hands.

The wicked shall depart to Sheol,
all the nations that forget God.

For the needy shall not always be forgotten,
nor the hope of the poor perish forever.

Rise up, O Lord! Do not let mortals prevail;
let the nations be judged before you.
Put them in fear, O Lord;
let the nations know that they are only human.

Song In the Lord, I’ll Be Ever Thankful

***In the Lord I’ll be ever thankful,
in the Lord I will rejoice!
Look to God, do not be afraid.
Lift up your voices, the Lord is near;
lift up your voices, the Lord is near.***

Reading Mark 4:30-32 Laurie Berner, reader

Jesus also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

Reflection Rev. Corinne Freedman Ellis