Initial Claim of Faith

Welcome, Candle Lighting

Call to Worship (Psalm 117) (Jeremy) Praise the Lord, all you nations! Extol him, all you peoples! For great is his steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever. Praise the Lord!

God's Greeting

Song: Gather Us In (https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=ar0BXa82F9M)

Scripture Reading: Psalm 113: (Todd Harris) Hallelujah! Praise, O servants of the Lord; praise the name of the Lord. Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time on and forevermore. From the rising of the sun to its setting the name of the Lord is to be praised.

> The Lord is high above all nations, and his glory above the heavens. Who is like the Lord our God, who is seated on high, who looks far down on the heavens and the earth? He raises the poor from the dust, and lifts the needy from the ash heap, to make them sit with princes, with the princes of his people. He gives the barren woman a home, making her the joyous mother of children. Hallelujah!

Meditation 1:

Song: You Are My Hiding Place (<u>https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=EIVC6rfX3Z8</u>)

Lament

Psalm 102:1-9 (read by Kate) Hear my prayer, O Lord; let my cry come to you. Do not hide your face from me in the day of my distress. Incline your ear to me: answer me speedily in the day when I call. For my days pass away like smoke, and my bones burn like a furnace. My heart is stricken and withered like grass; I am too wasted to eat my bread. Because of my loud groaning my bones cling to my skin. I am like an owl of the wilderness, like a little owl of the waste places. I lie awake: I am like a lonely bird on the housetop. All day long my enemies taunt me; those who deride me use my name for a curse. For I eat ashes like bread, and mingle tears with my drink.

Meditation 2

A Lament: (adapted by Dayna, written by Becky Bonham and a prayer from Sudan) Read by Deb Vaandrager

To you, the one who calls us beloved, We bring our hurting hearts to you. Our fearfulness, our worry. Our anger.

Our world is not as it should be.

The ones with power make decisions for their own benefit they flirt with war and destruction But the most desperate among us are left to fend for themselves.

The proud and the comfortable say, "Everything is fine. There is no problem." But those without privilege know better. They hunger, they weep, they bleed.

We live in a world where hate is a virtue and exclusion a way of life It is hard to hold on to what unites It is tough to find common ground And so racism, fear of the other lives on. Lives are lost, people struggle, relationships break down. Those of us who wish for peace forget how to make it Or where to begin And fall into hopelessness, cynicism or despair We too begin to feel powerless in the face of widespread suffering and systemic evil

Even our planet seems ready to crack under the pressure of forces that are beyond us Earthquakes, hurricanes, wildfires, volcanoes, viruses Nature groans – and with it, your people.

Not to mention our very own daily lives where we find burdens of our own. We're frustrated and lonely. Suffering and sick. Depressed, anxious and fearful. Struggling silently or alone, weary of restrictions, addictions and guilt.

We've known lost jobs, difficult or joyless jobs, the pinch of the pocketbook, family struggles, aging parents, grief, dying dreams, misery and no more will to go on.

We've been sinned against: abused, forgotten, bullied, slander and gossip—we're suffering under another's sin.

And we've done the sinning—and can't seem to get out from underneath.

Come, Lord Jesus, we pray.

When will you come? When will you make right? How long o Lord?! many of us are waiting for you: the war-torn are waiting for peace, the hungry are waiting for bread. the refugees are waiting for a homeland, the sick are waiting for healers. Have you forgotten us?

Come quickly, Lord Jesus, we pray.

When will you come? When will you make right? We are not strong enough, not wise enough, not good enough To make peace, to bring healing But you are, You are the one who planted peace in our hearts You are the one who will make it come to pass.

Strengthen the bruised reed. Make weapons into ploughshares. Comfort the weary and heavy-laden. Make a home for the homeless. Still the waters. Calm the storm.

Come, Lord Jesus, you and your kingdom, Come. On earth as it is in heaven. Your will be done. Amen.

Assurance of God's presence (Jeremy)

Though we have known hardship and pain, though life has not always turned out as we had hoped, we will stand here and say: **God's steadfast love endures forever!**

Though life becomes more complex, the deepest questions remain unanswered, and the mystery of faith deepens, we will say: **God's steadfast love endures forever!**

And though the pain of the world often seems more than we can bear or address, we will stand firm in our faith and say: **God's steadfast love endures forever!** ~ written by Ann Siddall,

Song: Hold me Jesus (Steenbergen Kids)

Song: Come, Lord and Tarry Not (All Things New) (<u>https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=Ukej-X-sslo</u>)

Praise and Thanksgiving

Scripture: Psalm 33:1-8 (Vincent) Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous. Praise befits the upright.

Praise the Lord with the lyre;

make melody to him with the harp of ten strings.

Sing to him a new song;

play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts.

For the word of the Lord is upright,

and all his work is done in faithfulness.

He loves righteousness and justice;

the earth is full of the steadfast love of the Lord.

By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, and all their host by the breath of his mouth. He gathered the waters of the sea as in a bottle;

he put the deeps in storehouses.

Let all the earth fear the Lord;

let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him.

Meditation 3

A Prayer of Thanksgiving: Prayer: O God of Timelessness and time. (48 in gueurillas of grace) Read by Klaaske O God of timelessness and time, I thank You for my time and for those things that are yet possible and precious in it; daybreak and beginning again, midnight and the touch of angels, the taming of demons in the dance of dreams; a word of forgiveness, and sometimes a song, for my breathing... my life. Thank You for the honesty which marks my friends and makes laughter; for fierce gentleness which dares to speak the truth in love, and tugs me to join the long march toward peace; for the sudden gusts of grace which arise unexpectedly in my wending from dawn to dawn; for children unabashed, wind rippling a rain puddle, a mockingbird in darkness, a colleague and a cup of coffee; for all the mysteries of loving, of my body next to another's body; for music and silence, for wrens and Orion, for everything that moves me to tears, to touching, to dreams, to prayers; for my longing... my life. Thank You for work which engages me in an eternal debate between right and reward and stretches me toward responsibility to those who pay for my work, and to those who cannot pay because they have no work; for justice which repairs the devastations of poverty; for liberty which extends to the captives of violence; for healing which binds up the broken bodied and broken hearted; for bread broken for all the hungry of the earth; for good news of love which is stronger than death; and for peace for all to sit under fig trees and not be afraid; for my calling... my life. Thank You for the sharp senses of the timeless stirring in my time, and of Your praise in my heart; for the undeniable awareness, quick as now, that the need of You is the truth of me,

which sets me free for others, for joy, and for you; for Your grace... my life... forever. Amen.

and Your presence with me is the truth of You,

Song: My Soul Finds Rest (https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=CSp-3kvKQZs)

Communion

The Lord is here. **His Spirit is with us.** Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy, at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise eternal God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For he is our great high priest who has entered once for all into the heavenly sanctuary, evermore to pour upon your Church the grace and comfort of your Holy Spirit.

Therefore all creation yearns with eager longing for the day the Risen Christ returns to make all things new, And so we join the angels and archangels in praising you, saying:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

(breaking bread) Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, at supper with his friends he took bread, and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to them, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

Christ, we welcome you. Your broken body speaks to us of your vulnerable and tender love. Through your brokenness you bring healing. So as you have welcomed us in our brokenness, may we welcome others in theirs.

(Pouring wine) At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine, he gave you thanks, and said: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins; do this in remembrance of me. Christ, we welcome you. Your cup speaks a better word than the violence and pay back mentality of our world. Through saying no to aggression, you have brought peace. As you have forgiven us, may we forgive others.

Let us proclaim the Great mystery of faith together: Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again. Amen.

Merciful God, pour out your Holy Spirit on these gifts of bread and wine, that in eating and drinking we may be made into a living temple and be made one

with Christ and one another.

These are God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

Take, eat and drink, remember and believe: the body and blood of Christ given for the complete forgiveness of all our sins and the healing of the world.

Thank you God for you have met us with your love and nourished us at his table. As God's pilgrim people, may we continue to explore the Way of Christ, and grow in friendship with God, in love for his people, and in serving others.

Trust.

Psalm 27, 1, 5, 13-14 (Heather)
The Lord is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold[a] of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?

For he will hide me in his shelter

in the day of trouble;
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent;
he will set me high on a rock.

I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord

in the land of the living.

Wait for the Lord;

be strong, and let your heart take courage;
wait for the Lord!

Meditation 4

Offerings: 1. Woody Nook CRC 2. Lacombe Food Bank (taken at the door) Benediction Doxology: I Surrender All (<u>https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=7x2IpLSfqp8</u>)