

Call to Worship & Opening Prayer

We worship the God who inhabits our world
and indwells our lives.

We need not look up to find God,
we need only to look around:

 within ourselves,
 beyond ourselves,
 in the eyes of another.

We need not listen for a distant thunder to find God,
we need only listen to the music of life,

 the words of children,
 the questions of the curious,
 the rhythm of a heartbeat.

We worship the God who inhabits our world
and who indwells our lives.

Let us pray:

O God of many names,
Lover of all nations.

We pray for peace

 In our hearts
 In our homes
 In our nations
 In our world.

May the peace of your will
meet our needs this day.

Amen.

Prayers of the People

Center us now, O God, on your presence in this place among your people,
as we lift up our heart's desires, our deep needs, our hungers, fears and failures.

Abiding God, you are the creator of heaven and earth. Use this great global pause to
revitalize the health of creation. Restore oceans, rivers, lakes, springs, glaciers, and other
bodies of water that give life to your creatures. Bring health to the air, the coastlines,
and the forests. Grant peace to your earth and all who inhabit it. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

You call all people of the world your children. Judge the nations justly, show mercy to the oppressed, and speak truth to power through your prophets. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You come near to us when we are lost, and you hear our distress. We pray for those who suffer in any way, especially those who are suffering from COVID-19, especially lifting up Sara Johnson. Grant healing for all those struggling with anxiety and depression, and give peace to those who are in recovery. Give rest to the weary, especially caregivers of loved ones; spouses caring for those with memory loss, children caring for aging parents, parents caring for young ones. We give great thanks for those whose profession is caregiving – school nurses, social workers, doctors, nurses, therapists, and all who work in hospitals and clinics. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You remain with us always, O God, even in times of fear and grief. We pray for all those who are mourning the death of loved ones, and today we especially lift up Deb Legan and her family as they remember the life of their aunt Lois, Neal Chapman and his family on the death of his cousin John, Tracy Danby on the death of her aunt Norma, and Colleen Dishneau and her family as they grieve the death of her husband Ron to COVID19. Grant peace to their families and all who carry the weight of grief over them. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Spirit of life, you empower your people with gifts to serve the world that you love. Today we give thanks for the teachers, leaders, and mentors within the Children Youth and Family ministry program. You are at work through their compassionate hearts, open minds, and caring hands. We give thanks for the leadership of the Children Youth and Family ministry staff: Jon Bates, Brian Thompson, Kaia Zeigler, and all of the nursery workers who care for the children of the church. May they feel the appreciation of our congregation and your love for them, this day and always. **Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Benediction

We go about our day in confidence
That the presence of God is with us.
Live out the commandments of God in joy,
Trusting that they birth the kingdom of God here and now.
Go in peace, for the Spirit abides with you. You are never alone.

Amen.