

Morning Worship
Bethesda Lutheran Church 8:30
Immanuel Lutheran Church 11:00
October 10, 2021

Acknowledgement and Thanksgiving for the Land

Creator, you made all people of every land. It is our responsibility to give thanks and respect to those who first occupied this land we are upon. We give thanks to the Anishinaabe, the first people of this land. We offer our respect to those ancestors who may be interred in this land. We are also thankful for the gifts of the People of the land. Creator let us be of Good Mind to reconcile the mistreatment of this land and to those who have been displaced. With thankful and respectful hearts we pray in Your name, Your son the Peacemaker and the Sacred Spirit. Amen.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE/GREETING

CALL TO WORSHIP

Creator, we give you thanks for all that you are and all that you bring to us within your creation. In Jesus, you placed the Gospel in the Center of the Sacred Circle through which all creation is related. You show us the way to live a generous and compassionate life. Give us your strength to live together with respect and commitment as we grow in your spirit, for you are God, now and forever. **Amen.**

(The Disciples Prayer Book, The Indigenous Theological Training Institute)

CONFESSION

O Great Spirit, God of every people and every tribe, we come to you as your many children, to ask for your forgiveness and guidance. Forgive us for the colonialism that stains our past, the ignorance that allowed us to think that we could claim another's home for our own.

Heal us of this history.

Remind us that none of us were discovered since none of us were lost, but that we are all gathered within the sacred circle of your community.

Guide us through your wisdom to restore the truth of our heritage. Help us to confront the racism that divides us as we confess the pain it has caused to the human family.

The circle of love is repeatedly broken because of the sin of exclusion. We create separate circles: the inner circle and the outer circle, the circle of power and the circle of despair, the circle of privilege and the circle of deprivation.

Forgive us our sins, as we forgive all who have sinned against us.

The circle of love is broken whenever there is alienation, whenever there is misunderstanding, whenever there is insensitivity and hardening of the heart.

Forgive us our sins, as we forgive all who have sinned against us.

The circle of love is broken whenever we cannot see eye to eye, whenever we cannot link hand to hand, whenever we cannot live heart to heart and affirm our differences.

Forgive us our sins, as we forgive all who have sinned against us.

Call us to kinship. Mend the hoop of our hearts and let us live in justice and peace, respecting the dignity of every person, tribe, language and nation.

Creator, you bent the earth like a bow until it was one, round, shining planet. At your word the land was drawn into mountains and deserts, forests, and plains; the waters were gathered together into rivers, lakes and seas. The circle of your creation has been broken time and again by greed and violence and many lives have been shattered. Renew the circle of the earth and turn the hearts of all your people to one another; that they and all the earth may live, and be drawn toward you and through the power of your son, Jesus Christ, who lives with you and the Holy Spirit now and always.

ASSURANCE

May God, our Creator have mercy, pardon, and set us free. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. God strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in life eternal. **Amen.**

PRAYER TO THE FOUR DIRECTIONS

Creator, the strength of the people, we honor you. Listen to the thoughts of your people. Together let us respect the truth of your spirit and care for your Creations to the east, to the south, to the west and to the north. Together let us live by the ways you have entrusted to us Within the circle of life. Come Great Spirit as all are gathered in your name.

We face East: To your symbol color gold, The place of dawning, there is beauty in the morning, there the Seeker finds new visions as each sacred day is born. All who honor life around them, all who honor life within, shall shine with light and glory when the morning comes again. And we pray, **Come Holy Creator's Spirit, Come**

We turn to the South: To your symbol color red, In the South, the place of growing there is wisdom in the earth, Both the painful song of dying and joyful song of birth. As the earth gives up her lifeblood so her children's hearts may beat. We give back to her our reverence for the holy ground beneath our feet. And we pray, **Come Holy Creator's Spirit, Come**

We turn to the West: To your symbol color black, The place of seeing, there is born a vision of the servant of the servants, who proclaimed The Gospel to us. Guide us at the end of each day and fill us with your peace. And we pray, **Come Holy Creator's Spirit, Come**

We turn to the North: To your symbol color white, We look to God our Creator who cleanses our earth with snow, wind, and rain. To Jesus who fills us with the wideness of mercy and grace and lovingly embraces all the people. And the Holy Spirit who comes to inspire us. And we pray, **Come Holy Creator's Spirit, Come**

GATHERING SONG #532 vs 1 & 4 "Gather Us In"

Here in this place the new light is streaming,
now is the darkness vanished away;
See in this space our fears and our dreaming
Brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken,
gather us in, the blind and the lame;
Call to us now, and we shall awaken,
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

Not in the dark of buildings confining,
Not in some heaven, light years away
Here in this place the new light is shining,
Now is the kingdom, and now is the day.

Gather us in and hold us forever,
gather us in and make us your own;
Gather us in, all peoples together,
Fire...of love in our flesh and our bone.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Creator God, from you every family in heaven and earth takes its name. You have rooted and grounded us in your covenant love and empowered us by your Spirit to speak the truth in love, and to walk in your way towards justice and wholeness. Mercifully grant that your people, journeying together in partnership, may be strengthened and guided to help one another to grow into the full stature of Christ, who is our light and our life. Amen

(from the Episcopal Church: Resources on the Doctrine of Discovery)

THE WORD

First Reading: Genesis 2:2-3

And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all his work that he had done in creation.

The word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Isaiah 41:10

Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Second Reading: Philippians 4:6-8

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

The word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

The Holy Gospel of Mark:

Response after the announcement: **Glory to you O Lord.**

Mark 1:35

And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed.

Mark 6:31

And he said to them, "Come away by yourselves to a desolate place and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat.

Response after the reading: **Praise to you O Christ.**

SERMON *We welcome Elder Midge Montano*

HYMN OF THE DAY #526 vs 1 and 4 "God Is Here"

God is here! As we your people meet to offer praise and prayer,
May we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share.
Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts
Wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.

Lord of all, of church and kingdom, in an age of change and doubt,
Keep us faithful to the gospel; help us work your purpose out.
Here in this day's dedication, all we have to give, receive;
We, who cannot live without you, we adore you! We believe!

CREED STATEMENT

We believe in Creator, **Father-Mother Spirit, who called the world and all that is in it, into being, who spoke the creative-forming word, and all came forth who created women and men and set them free to live in love, in obedience to the will of supreme love and in community with all.**

We believe in Creator, Son and Brother, who, because of love beyond our understanding, love for creation, entered the world to share our humanity, to rejoice and to despair; to set before us the paths of life

and death, and walk them with us; to be rejected and die, but finally to conquer death and bind the world to himself for all time.

We believe in Creator, In-Dwelling Spirit, who invites us into community, that we may through faith and that community of oneness, experience uplifting and sustaining grace; that we may fulfill our human responsibility to reach out to our neighbor, whoever that may be; that we may rejoice in the constant nature of creation and the wondrous joy of life itself.

We believe in Creator, whose word teaches us that all things grow together, the Circle of Life; that the paths of life and death, good and evil, too often come together, that choices are not clearly defined; but that we confidently and responsibly tread the path we choose and only the true One can be our judge. We believe in Creator, who is present and working in this world through all creation. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Grandfather we know you hear us when we pray in the name of your Son. Therefore, in confidence and trust we pray for the Church:

Grandmother, enliven the Church for its mission

We are the salt of the earth and light to the world.

Breathe fresh life into your people.

Through our humility we reveal Christ in word and action.

We pray for the world:

Creator of all, lead us and every people into the ways of justice and peace

That we may respect one another in freedom and truth.

Awaken in us a sense of wonder for the earth and all that is in it

So that we might understand how we show honor and respect You and all that you made.

We pray for those we hold close in our hearts:

God of truth, inspire with your wisdom those whose decisions affect the lives of others

That all may act with integrity and courage

Give grace to all whose lives are linked with ours.

May we serve Christ in one another, and love as he loves us.

We pray for those in need: Myrna, Eddy, Wilma, Lois, Wally and Colleen, Ralph and Eve, Kermit and Judy, Beverly, Marty, Ruthann, Bill, Barb, the Rychagov family,

God of hope, comfort and restore to wholeness all who suffer in body, mind and spirit.

That balance be restored to all of creation.

We remember those who have died, especially during this time of the pandemic:

Our hearts cry out in pain at their passing. **We commend them back to you.** Bring peace to those who mourn. **We feel their loss because we are all connected.**

Through Jesus the Christ and with Jesus the Christ and in Jesus the Christ, made possible by your Holy Spirit, we lift our prayers to you our God, trusting in your abiding grace. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

Share a sign of God's peace with one another.

THE OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious God, we thank you for our present abundance and for the many blessings you have bestowed upon this community. We thank you for our faith, for our knowledge of you, and for the assurance of your love. May all these gifts be a blessing to those in need. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Oh Great Spirit, **You are our Shepherd Chief, In the most high place whose home is everywhere, Even beyond the stars and moon. Whatever You want done let it be done everywhere. Give us Your gift of bread day by day. Forgive our wrongs as we forgive those who wrong us. Take us away from wrong doings. Free us from all evil, For everything belongs to You. Let your power and glory shine forever. Amen**

(Written by Hattie Corbett Enos -Nez Perce Elder)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

Send us anywhere you would have us go, only go there with us. Place upon us any burden you desire, only stand by us to sustain us. Break any tie that binds us, except the tie that binds us to you.

And the blessing of God; the Creator, who made and knows us; the Savior, who redeems and befriends us; and the Spirit, who enlightens and sustains us, be with you this day and always. Amen.

(Blessing attributed to The Rt. Rev. John Shelby Spong)

SENDING SONG #538 ELW “The Lord Now Sends Us Forth”

The Lord now sends us forth with hands to serve and give,
To make all of the earth a better place to live.

Repeat: The angels are not sent into our world of pain
To do what we were meant to do in Jesus' name;
That falls to you and me and all who are made free.
Help us, O Lord we pray, to do your will today.

DISMISSAL

Go now into the four Sacred Directions, the east, south, west, and north.
Go into your communities, into unknown lands and places.
Go to those who welcome you and those who reject you.
Go and share the Good News with all who will hear.

Thanks be to God.