

## Coffee hour at 11am after service via Zoom

Code: 229508663

PW: 056996

*Elder Wisdom with Dee Sweet  
September 13, 2020*

*Before we begin Worship we acknowledge that we worship on the traditional grounds of the Anishinaabe (meaning "the people") People, and we honor their elders both past and present.*

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### GREETING & ANOUNCMENTS

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

The Spirit of God be with you. **And also with you.**

Come, let us worship the Creator with hearts open to all peoples, where pride and prejudice once dwelt;

**Let us worship the Creator with minds open to the wisdom of Native peoples, where listening and respect once had no place.**

Let us honor the One who freely gives by showing honor to those who were once and still remain oppressed.

**Let us worship the God of diversity, who made the world in colors, in seasons, in endless variety; Who created the diversity of the earth's peoples in His image. All were created to honor one another and in so doing the Creator is honored. Let us honor Him today by reflecting in our worship and in life His image -- love. Amen.**

*(Adapted from UMC Native American Ministries Sunday's Call To Worship)*

#### 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 #837 ELW “Many and Great, O God”

Many and great, O God, are your works,  
maker of earth and sky.  
Your hands have set the heav'ns with stars;  
your fingers spread the mountains and plains.  
Lo, at your word the waters were formed:  
deep seas obey your voice.

Grant unto us communion with you,  
O star-a-biding One.  
Come unto us and dwell with us;  
with you are found the gifts of life.  
Bless us with life that has no end eternal life with  
you.

### THE WORD

First Reading Isaiah 40:25-31

To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing. Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, “My way is hidden from the Lord, and my right is disregarded by my God”? Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint. The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM 19

The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork. **Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.**

There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard; **yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world.**

In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun, which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy, and like a strong man runs its course with joy. **Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them; and nothing is hid from its heat.**

The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; **the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple;** the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; **the commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes;**

the fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever; **the ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.**

More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; **sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honey-comb.**

Moreover by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward. **But who can detect their errors? Clear me from hidden faults.**

Keep back your servant also from the insolent; do not let them have dominion over me. **Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.**

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer

### GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to John 17:20-23

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

<sup>20</sup> “I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, <sup>21</sup> that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. <sup>22</sup> The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, <sup>23</sup> I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.” The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Christ.

### SERMON: “Elder Wisdom” with guest speaker DENISE SWEET

## HYMN OF THE DAY *“We Are One In the Spirit”* vs 1 & 2

We are one in the Spirit, We are one in the Lord,  
We are one in the Spirit, We are one in the Lord,  
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored.  
(refrain)

We will walk with each other, We will walk hand in hand,  
We will walk with each other, We will walk hand in hand,  
and together we'll spread the news that God is in our land.  
(refrain)

*Refrain:* And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,  
Yes they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love.

## 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**

## REPENTANCE

Creator and Redeemer, As we approach you in prayer, Make us walk in beauty and balance. Make us open our hearts and minds. Make us speak the truth. We pray first for your Community, the Church, The Body of Christ. We pray for all our relatives in the circle of life Throughout all Creation; For those chosen to be our leaders; In peace, we pray to you, Lord God:

*Denise:* An excerpt from the Repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery from the Churchwide Assembly in 2016. “To repudiate explicitly and clearly the European-derived doctrine of discovery as an example of the “improper mixing of the power of the church and the power of the sword”, and to acknowledge and repent from this church’s complicity in the evils of colonialism in the Americas, which continue to harm tribal governments and individual tribal members.

*Mary:* Christians have often focused on what separated them from Native people rather than looking for what united them. Their failures to find a uniting front resulted in the deaths of hundreds of thousands of Native people and the forced assimilation of people. We deeply regret the decisions that resulted in these atrocities. Following the 2016 Resolution we affirm that our congregation and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America will eliminate the doctrine of discovery from its contemporary rhetoric and programs, electing to practice accompaniment with native peoples instead of a missionary endeavor to them, allowing these partnerships to mutually enrich indigenous communities and the ministries of the ELCA.

*Mary: Let us pray (moment of silence)*

**O God of mercy, we lament that even good actions of reform and renewal had often unintended negative consequences.**

We bring before you the burdens of the guilt of the past when our forbearers did not follow your will that all be one in the truth of the gospel. **Teach us and show us the way.**

We confess our own ways of thinking and acting that perpetuate the divisions of the past. As communities and as individuals, we build many walls around us: mental, spiritual, physical and political walls that result in discrimination and violence. Forgive us, Lord. **Teach us and show us the way.**

Christ is the way, the truth and the life. He is our peace, who breaks down the walls that divide, who gives us, through the Holy Spirit, ever-new beginnings. **Teach us and show us the way.**

In Christ, we receive forgiveness and reconciliation and we are strengthened for a faithful and common witness in our time. **Teach us and show us the way.**

We pause now to add our own prayers, either silently or aloud.

Creator, you made the world and declared it to be good: The beauty of the trees, the softness of the air, The fragrance of the grass speaks to us; The summit of the mountains, the thunder of the sky, The rhythm of the lakes speaks to us; The faintness of the stars, the freshness of the morning, The dewdrops on the flower speak to us. But above all, our heart soars, for you speak to us In your Son, Jesus Christ, whose name we offer these prayers. **AMEN**

*(Adapted from Joint Catholic-Lutheran Commemoration of the Reformation Liturgy, Oct. 31, 2016)*

## **THE PEACE**

As a community let us embrace the ongoing work of reconciliation. **God makes peace within us. Let us claim it. God makes peace between us. Let us share it.**

Let us make reconciliation visible by greeting each other as a sign of God's peace, love, forgiveness and grace.

The peace of our Creator be with you in all things. **We give thanks to our Creator.**

You are invited to share peace and reconciliation with your neighbor.

## **THE OFFERING PRAYER**

Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your people, Gather into one all who share this bread and wine; Fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth, That we may praise and glorify you Through your Son Jesus Christ; Through whom all glory and honor are yours, Almighty Creator, with the Holy Spirit, In your holy church both now and forever.

**AMEN**

## **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Spirit of God be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Father, our Great Spirit, from the depths of our hearts we give you thanks. We say thank you, now and forever.

From the place of the rising sun in the East, to the South where the warm winds blow, from the West where the soft rain comes, to the coldness of the North.

We unite with all creation from the four directions to join in the everlasting thanksgiving and praise for the gift of your son, Jesus Christ. With hearts lifted, we join with the angels, the guardian spirits, the saints, and all our ancestors as we sing:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest,  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now we say the Nez Perce version of 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)*

## INVITATION OF COMMUNION

So, come to this table, You who have much faith and you who would like to have more. You who have been to this sacrament often, And you who have not been for a long time. You who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have failed. Come. It is Christ who invites us to meet him here. These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

*(From Communion Blessings, Christopher Peters)*

## COMMUNION HYMN #471 vs. 1&2 "Let Us Break Bread Together"

Let us break bread together on our knees; let us break bread together on our knees.

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.

Let us drink wine together on our knees; let us drink wine together on our knees.

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Jesus Christ, our leader, you are the Son of the Creator. Today we became your children. Today we became your grandchildren. We will live as you have taught us. We will follow your commandments. Watch over us. Speak to us from the trees, from the grass and herbs, from the breeze, from the passing rain, from the passing thunder and the deep waters. Before us there is beauty, behind us there is beauty. Allow us to walk a long life in happiness, completed in beauty.

Creator together our breath is a prayer to you. As we prepare to leave this sacred space, give us your peace as our time together in this sacred and holy space is done. Grant us rest on this earth, and give us rest when we get to heaven once our time on your wondrous Creation is finished. **AMEN**

*(Adapted from the Liturgy of St. John's, Red Lake MN- Red Lake Band of Chippewa & Elizabeth Gaskins, Muscogee (Creek))*

## BLESSING

Great Spirit, our Creator God, look upon these faces gathered in holy community together and send them anywhere you would have them go, so that they may embody the word of reconciliation through their actions. Walk with them so that they may face the winds of change and walk the good road. Enlighten them. Sustain them. May God our Creator be with you this day and always. **AMEN**

*(Kelly Sherman-Conroy, Oglala Sioux)*

## SENDING SONG #887 ELW vs. 1 & 3 "This Is My Song"

This is my song, Oh God of all the nations,  
A song of peace for lands afar and mine.  
This is my home, the country where my heart is;  
Here are my hopes, my dreams, my sacred shrine.  
But other hearts in other lands are beating,  
With hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.

This is my prayer, O God of all earth's kingdoms,  
your kingdom come; on earth your will be done.  
O God, be lifted up till all shall serve you,  
and hearts united learn to live as one.  
So hear my prayer, O God of all the nations;  
myself I give you; let your will be done.

## DISMISSAL

We have honored Christ our brother and chief. All my relatives, go in peace. **Thanks be to God.**

### Birthdays—

**Tuesday Sept. 15—John Higney**

**Wednesday Sep 16 Diane Judd**

**Mon Sept.- 14**

**Book Study: Short Stories by Jesus 1:00PM**

**Wed Sept.—16**

**Book Study: How to be an Antiracist 5:00 PM**

**Mutual Ministry 6:00PM**

**Thurs Sept.—17**

**Book Study: White Fragility 10:30AM**