

Service for the Lord's Day

Celebrating the Gifts of Women

May 10, 2015

Surely, the Lord is in this place.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

(each person prays silently)

*Believing we cannot carry a tune, we hesitate to join in the chorus sung by all creation.
So, you softly and gently hum the melody in our hearts until they raise a rousing chorus of Grace.*

Gathering

PRELUDE

Selected

WELCOME

Jane Fahle

*INTROIT #408

"There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit"

Akers, 1962

*CALL TO WORSHIP

To those who gave birth to their children — we celebrate with you. To those who lost a child this year – we mourn with you. To those who experienced loss through miscarriage, failed adoptions, or running away—we mourn with you.

To those who have warm and close relationships with your children – we celebrate with you. To those who are foster moms, mentor moms, and spiritual moms – we need you. To those who have disappointment, heart ache, and distance with your children – we sit with you. To those who lost their mothers this year – we grieve with you.

To those who are single and long to be married and mothering your own children – we mourn that life has not turned out the way you longed for it to be. To those who step-parent – we walk with you on these complex paths.

To those who envisioned lavishing love on grandchildren -yet that dream is not to be, we grieve with you. To those who placed children up for adoption — we commend you for your selflessness and remember how you hold that child in your heart.

This Mother's Day, we walk with you. Whether you have a mother, or are a mother, or remember a mother – all women are designed to care for the people of God's world.

Mothering is not for the faint of heart and we have real warriors in our midst. You have lived with the tension of providing both freedom and a safety net. We remember you. And we thank our Lord for the design of all the women of God!

*HYMN # 450

"Be Thou My Vision"

Hull, 1912

CALL TO CONFESSION

We are easily seduced by the temptations all around us. But if we are willing to trust God and

offer our confessions, God is quick to forgive us and fill us with hope. So let us pray first silently, then together using the words in the bulletin.

SILENT PRAYER

(A time of silence for personal prayer)

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of our ancestors in the faith, we are a people who have known the hurt of broken promises, and have spoken words we could not keep. We are quick to condemn those who make wrong choices, but want only gentle criticism directed our way. We let our lives be guided so much by our past, rather than opening our eyes, our hearts, our hopes to your amazing future. Forgive our distrust of the vows you have made to us, God of Sarah and Hagar, Tamar, Naomi and Deborah. Forgive our disbelief that you can bring hope to those places where we see only despair. Forgive our hesitation to deny all that keeps us from committing completely to you, Lord of all. Forgive us, so we may take up the life you offer to us in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

LORD HAVE MERCY

Kyrie Eleison

*"Lord, have mercy upon us,
Christ have mercy upon us, Lord have mercy upon us."*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Listen carefully, dear friends. God does not reject us, God redeems us. God does not back out of the relationship created so long ago; God restores it to its original purpose. God does not hold back, but pours abundant forgiveness into our lives.

Forgiven, we can follow. Filled with hope, we can empty ourselves for others. Restored to new life, we can live in relationship with God, with our neighbors, our enemies, and with ourselves. Thanks be to God. Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

#579

ANTHEM

"When in Our Music God is Glorified"
May Hymn of the Month

Chancel Choir Women

Proclaiming

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE

I John 5: 1-6

Bibles, p. 227/ LG. p.293

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

HYMN #410

"God is Calling Through a Whisper"

Bringle, 2003

SECOND SCRIPTURE

John 15: 9-17

Bibles, p. 103 / LG. p.134

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

SERMON

“Remain, Abide, Commanded”

Rev. Candice L. Klein

Responding

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We trust in God, whom Jesus called “Abba, Father.” In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God’s image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God – preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.

– A Brief Statement of Faith 10.2, 10.3, 10.4

CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

MINISTRY OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Sending

*HYMN #309

“Come, Great God of All the Ages” (v 1 – 3)

Cathey, 1987

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE #309

“Come, Great God of All the Ages” (v 4)

POSTLUDE

Selected

(*) Those who are able may stand.

Bold italic letters indicate congregational responses.

This week’s prayers and concerns:

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday Mornings	8:30 a.m.	Choir Practice
Wednesdays	4:15-5:15	Kids for God
Thursdays	6:00 p.m.	Spanish Class

*As the Father has loved me,
so I have loved you ...*

John 15:9



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