



"A Community Of Many Faithing Communities Where All Belong!"

Living Waters Contemplative Life Center | Divine Intervention Ministry to the Homeless
Tippecanoe just.good.food Garden | Food Justice Site PCUSA
Arts and Science Literacy Camps for Children

Welcome To Worship

July 17, 2022

9:30 a.m.



Welcome to this time of being with God and each other.

TODAY'S WORSHIP
Preparing to Worship...



“Praise for the Everyday: Awakening to Beauty”

✧ **Prelude: Zo Trembley**

✧ **Welcome and community news**

Tippe Night Out: Friday, July 22nd 7 pm Humboldt Park – Beer Garden

✧ **Readying Ourselves for Worship**

Surely God is in this place, Holy Ground!
Surely God is in this place,
Holy Ground!

✧ **A Poem to Center Ourselves in this Moment:**

“On Thy Wondrous Works I Will Meditate (Psalm 145)” by Mary Oliver

1.

All day up and down the shore the
fine points of the waves keep on
tapping whatever is there: scatter of broken
clams, empty jingles, old
oyster shells thick and castellated that held
once the pale jewel of their bodies, such sweet
tongue and juice. And who do you
think you are sauntering along
five feet up in the air, the ocean a blue fire
around your ankles, the sun
on your face on your shoulders its golden mouth whispering
(so it seems) you! you! you!

8.

Every morning I want to kneel down on the golden
cloth of the sand and say
some kind of musical thanks for
the world that is happening again—another day—
from the shawl of wind coming out of the
west to the firm green
flesh of the melon lately sliced open and
eaten, its chill and ample body
flavored with mercy. I want
to be worthy—of what? Glory? Yes, unimaginable glory.
O Lord of melons, of mercy, though I am
not ready, nor worthy, I am climbing toward you.



✧ **Becoming Present to God and Each Other...Our Check-in:**
How Are You as You Arrive...how is it with your spirit?

~ **The Joy of Passing the Peace** ~



✧And the Children Will Lead the Way: Kids' Time



✧Gathering as God's People: Our Theme – Psalms as Living Prayers

Through the remainder of the summer, we are exploring the practice of prayer through the lens of the Psalms. These are songs, poems, living prayers. I appreciate the phrase, “living prayers,” which leads us to questions, such as: how are we living prayerfully and how are our prayers vital and life-giving? How are our prayers alive? How do our prayer practices transform us? How do our prayers acknowledge the joys, struggles, and challenges that show up in our lives? What does it look like to live a prayer?



Richard Rohr describes the practice of contemplation as a living prayer. Contemplative prayer is really a different form of consciousness – it’s not really “saying” prayers. He says, “It’s living in constant unitive union with God and everything around you so that whatever you do is a prayer - you rewire the mind so that everything you do is connected in loving union with the moment, with whatever is right in front of you.” He defines contemplation as a long, loving look at the “Real.” He explains, “When you look at something long enough and love it, and let it be reality for you, you’re at the first door of contemplation. You don’t judge it or analyze it – instead, you witness to what is unfolding and see – truly see – God’s creation. We are to delight in it – to appreciate it – to soak it in. Rohr says that once you have that “mind” THEN you’ll know how to pray.

There is no question that such a practice...takes practice. ;) It’s hard to maintain contemplation 24 hours a day so it is something you work on throughout your life, striving to rewire your thinking. When we develop and deepen our contemplative practices, we are better equipped to love ourselves, one another, and God. Our relationships are richer, our connections are deeper, our compassion and empathy grow.

The psalms are powerful prayers that give us language to enter into more authentic dialog with the divine. Quite often when you attempt to study the psalms, you either get the perspective of a Biblical scholar or of someone who is focused on the spiritual experience of the psalms. However, the American theologian Walter Brueggemann strives to consider the psalms both intellectually and spiritually. He notes the ways that the psalms so deeply speak to our lives as he points to how the forms of the psalms correspond to the seasons of our lives – there are psalms of orientation, disorientation, or new orientation.

Orientation speaks to the satisfied seasons of well-being that we experience. The wisdom psalms and the psalms of creation that express centeredness and equilibrium are examples of orientation. Today we will explore a psalm of orientation. Disorientation addresses our anguished seasons of hurt, alienation, suffering, and death. Disorientation psalms are filled with sorrow and confusion, sometimes pleading; one of which we reflected upon last week. New orientation consists of those surprising times in our lives when we are overwhelmed with the new gifts of God and attempt to move through times of transition. New orientation psalms express gratitude, praise, and thanksgiving.

Just as Brueggemann points to three forms of psalms, I found it intriguing that the writer, Anne Lamott talks about the three essential forms of prayer: “Help, Thanks, Wow!” I think this lines up beautifully with the concepts of Disorientation (“Help!”), Orientation (“Thanks!”), and New Orientation (“Wow!”).

As we listen to the psalms in the coming weeks, let us listen for the intimate prayers that we hear in them. Let us consider how these words align with our experiences and tap into the joy and pain that is expressed through them.

✧ **Gathering Hymn 467 Give Us Light**

✧ **Opening Ourselves to God's Grace**

By James Burko

L: May the peace of God surround you

R: Like the trees of the forest

L: May the peace of God warm you all over

R: Like the sun in the sky

L: May the peace of God swell and roll over you

R: Like a wave in the sea

L: May the peace of God fill you

R: Like the cool wind

L: May the peace of God be with you

R: And also with you.



✧ **Sharing our Innermost Lives with God**

Holy One, we struggle to remain awake to the joys and beauty of the world around us when all is quiet. Help us to stay alert and intentional. Guide us as we embrace the sweet moments and mindfully take in the opportunities for contentment and insight. Reveal to us the ways we can share the joy and peace made available to us as we spread your love to those who need it most. Amen.

Let us enter into a few minutes of quiet. Our gathered community enables us to become even more aware of the Divine presence. Enter the sacred awareness of God's accompaniment as you seek understanding and connection.



✧ **Short period of silent reflection**

Holy Spirit, may we hear your precious word for us today. May we grow in wisdom, strength, and love as we open our ears, our minds, and our hearts to the transformative message you have in store for each of us. Amen.

✧ **Special Music** – Zo Trembley

✧ **Bible Wisdom Teaching**

Psalm 145

*The Greatness and the Goodness of God
Praise. Of David.*

I will extol you, my God and King,
and bless your name for ever and ever.
Every day I will bless you,
and praise your name for ever and ever.
Great is God, and greatly to be praised;
this greatness is unsearchable.

One generation shall laud your works to another,
and shall declare your mighty acts.
On the glorious splendor of your majesty,
and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.
The might of your awesome deeds shall be proclaimed,
and I will declare your greatness.
They shall celebrate the fame of your abundant goodness,
and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.

God is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
God is good to all,
and compassion is over all that has been made.

All your works shall give thanks to you, O God,
and all your faithful shall bless you.
They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom,
and tell of your power,
to make known to all people your mighty deeds,
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.
Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
and your dominion endures throughout all generations.

God is faithful in all words,
and gracious in all deeds.
God upholds all who are falling,
and raises up all who are bowed down.
The eyes of all look to you,
and you give them their food in due season.
You open your hand,
satisfying the desire of every living thing.
God is just in all God's ways,
and kind in all God's doings.
God is near to all who call on,
to all who call on God in truth.
God fulfils the desire of all who fear God;
hearing their cry, and saving them.
God watches over all who love God,
but all the wicked God will destroy.

My mouth will speak the praise of God,
and all flesh will bless God's holy name for ever and ever.

✧ Reflection Questions

What do you know for sure? What feels constant and true to you? What enables you to feel secure and allows you to notice the beauty and joy around you? How might you remain awake to the gifts surrounding you when the calm tends to lull you to sleep?

✧ Message

“Praise for the Everyday: Awakening to Beauty” Rev. Trish Eckert



✧ Hymn: 14 For the Beauty of the Earth

✧ Sharing Our Wisdom

✧ Affirming Our Faith with Intention *(from our Mission Statement)*

ALL: Called to be thankful: We celebrate God’s grace in worship, reflection, and action; nurture personal discipleship through education, prayer, and fellowship; and reach out with healing into a world seeking peace and justice. We welcome people of diverse backgrounds, lifestyles, beliefs, and relationships with God to join us on this journey.

✧A Moment of Quiet for Everyone



✧Community Prayers and the Pastoral Prayer

Help us, Opener of Eyes, to see you.

Even amidst the daily and mundane tasks that seem to occupy so much of our brains. Open us to the beauty, to the joy, to the peace that surpasses all understanding.

Help us to look for the little moments when you appear in unexpected giggles, printers that obey, passwords that work the first time, tomatoes on sale when we need them.

Thank you, too, for the work you've given us, this care for one another. Help us to be joyful in our work, loving in all we do, and welcoming to everyone we encounter. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

ALL: Our Father-Mother, who lives in and beyond all of creation, may your name be made holy. May your commonwealth thrive, may your justice be done, may your loving compassion reign in every season. Give us today the bread we need; and forgive us our debts, as we have forgiven our debtors; in every trial strengthen us, in the midst of evil deliver us. For yours is the dominion, and the power, and the glory, now and forever. Amen.



✧ **Benediction**

On each threshold, wisdom; at every doorway, love; through every entry, grace; with each beginning, peace. Amen.

Now that the worship has ended, may the service truly begin.

✧ **Our Response...**

Holy One, now we your servants go in peace. Your Word lives on in us.

Postlude: Zo Trembley



Hear this service presented on Tippe Talk podcast, link on our website & Facebook.

<http://www.tippechurch.org>