



"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

February 4, 2024

9:30 a.m.



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

*"All Shall Be Well" Rev. Trish Eckert*

✧ **Prelude** ~ Tippe Musicians

✧ **Welcome and community news**

**Ash Wednesday** – Prince of Peace Lutheran and Pastor Myron are hosting a Community Potluck 5:45-6:45 pm before the 7 pm Ash Wednesday service at Prince of Peace Lutheran 4419 S Howell Ave on Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>

**Our Lenten theme this year** is “Wandering Heart: Figuring out faith with Peter.” *First Sunday of Lent is February 18<sup>th</sup>*. This Lent, we are focusing on the life and faith of one of Jesus’ most famous disciples. In Peter, we see a person who is both steadfast and unsteady, a dear friend and a betrayer, a follower and a wanderer. In Peter, we often see ourselves. By following Peter’s journey, we will watch the story of Jesus unfold through the eyes of a very normal human trying to figure it all out—just like us.

**The Tippe community is providing dinner** to our Divine Intervention guests on Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup>

✧ **Readying Ourselves for Worship**

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

✧ **A Blessing as we Center Ourselves in this Moment**

“[Jesus said to me] most reassuringly:

I am able to make everything well, and

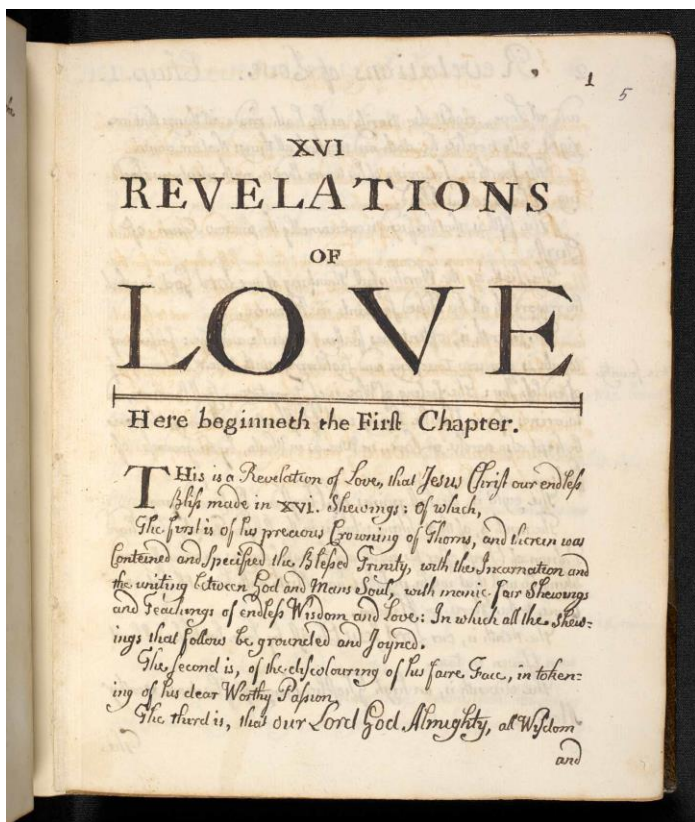
I know how to make everything well,  
and

I wish to make everything well, and

I shall make everything well; and

You shall see for yourself that all  
manner of things shall be well.”

— Julian of Norwich, *Revelations of Divine Love* (2015 ed.), 69-70



✧ **Becoming Present to God and Each Other - Our Check-in**

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

One: May the peace that surpasses all understanding be with you

All: **And also with you**

One: Thanks be to God

✧ **Time for Young Hearts**

✧ **Gathering as God's People: Our Theme** Throughout this Epiphany season we've been exploring what it is to know and to be known, how to listen deeply to leadings and discerning our response to that call, what it looks like to love and be loved, and ultimately, how all those elements make up discipleship. This week we will reflect on letting go – letting go of control, of assumptions, of stumbling blocks. In this gathered community we will tune into God's presence and God's movement in our lives and acknowledge the gift of grace and the potential for healing that is always available to us.

✧ **Gathering 315 In the Midst of New Dimensions**

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

**All: Everlasting God, Creator of the ends of the earth,  
you who spread the heavens like a curtain, and make us a tent to live in,  
gather us in the shelter of your love, and renew our strength,**

**that with wings as eagles we might not grow weary as we walk with you. We pray in the power of your Holy Spirit. Amen.**

### ✧ **Sharing our Innermost Lives with God**

One: God invites us to come to worship as our whole selves: God offers us a new beginning day by day and week by week. Trusting in God, we pray for transformation and new life:

**All: Holy One, we hope in your steadfast love, bringing our broken hearts and our wounded spirits. Make us aware of the hearts we break, the spirits we wound, of those we treat as outcasts, of those we tread down. Renew us in your grace, renew us in your strength. Amen.**

One: One: Have you not known? Have you not heard? God does not grow weary with us, but loves, forgives, and renews us. Go with renewed strength in your walk of faith.

### ✧ **Special Music** ~ Tippe Musicians

#### ✧ **Prayer of Intention**

*Holy Spirit, may we hear your gracious 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.*

### ✧ **Bible Wisdom Teachings**

#### **Isaiah 40:21-31**

21 Have you not known? Have you not heard?

Has it not been told you from the beginning?

Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

22 It is God who sits above the circle of the earth,

and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;

who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,

and spreads them like a tent to live in;  
23 who brings princes to naught,

and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

24 Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,

scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,

when God blows upon them, and they wither,

and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

25 To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy

One.

26 Lift up your eyes on high and see:  
Who created these?  
God brings out their host and numbers  
them,  
calling them all by name;  
because God is great in strength,  
mighty in power,  
not one is missing.

27 Why do you say, *O Jacob*,  
and speak, *O Israel*,  
'My way is hidden from the Sovereign,  
and my right is disregarded by my  
God'?

28 Have you not known? Have you not  
heard?

The Sovereign is the everlasting God,  
the Creator of the ends of the earth.  
God does not faint or grow weary;  
God's understanding is unsearchable.

29 God gives power to the faint,  
and strengthens the powerless.

30 Even youths will faint and be weary,  
and the young will fall exhausted;

31 but those who wait for the Sovereign  
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.

### **Mark 1:29-39**

29 As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. 30 Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. 31 He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

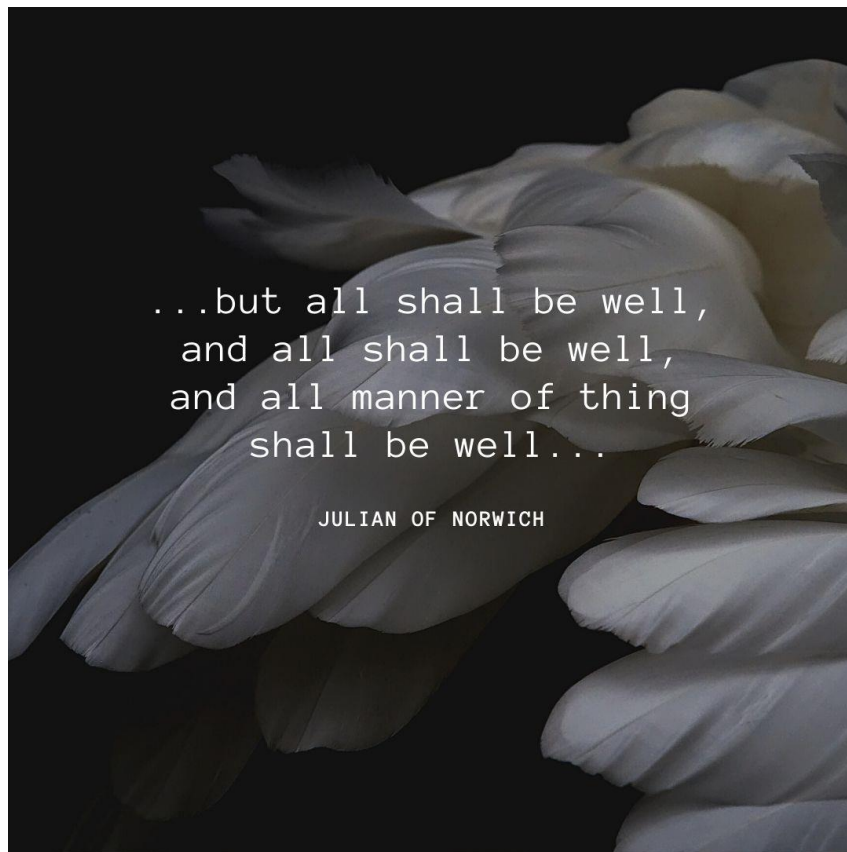
32 That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. 33 And the whole city was gathered around the door. 34 And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

35 In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. 36 And Simon and his companions hunted for him. 37 When they found him, they said to him, 'Everyone is searching for you.' 38 He answered, 'Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do.' 39 And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

One: May we hear anew the origin stories of our faith and draw from the roots of our tradition.

All: **Thanks be to our God.**

✧ **Message *All Shall Be Well***, Rev. Trish Eckert



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### ✧ **Reflection Questions**

- Do I live as if I were aware of God's presence at all times? How is my faith reflected in my daily life?
- When have I been healed physically, emotionally, or spiritually, and where was God in my experience of healing?
- Am I willing to seek healing through my relationships with others and provide a listening presence to their pain, as well?

### ✧ **Short period of silent reflection**

### ✧ **Sharing Our Wisdom**

### ✧ **Hymn 726 *Will You Come and Follow Me***

### ✧ **Our gifts of support**

Our scripture this morning teaches that God builds up, lifts up, binds up, heals, covers, and shelters us. May the gifts that we bring and share extend these ministries.

### ✧ **Community Prayers & Pastoral Prayer**

### ✧ **Words of Invitation and the Breaking of the Bread**

### **Communion of the People**





### Welcome

This is God's Table, and it is a Table of life. This Table declares God's provision and is our constant reminder that God has our best interest at heart. This isn't a Table of want. It is a Table of need. God knows what we need and provides it – even when we may not want it.

This Table is the place we come when we fear the pressures of the world. It is here we come when we are overcome with despair and loneliness.

This Table is the place we come when we lack purpose in our lives. It is here that God provides presence, purpose, and communion.

### Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

God, Satisfier of our needs, you created the heavens and the earth not from a bland palette but in the splendor of every color, shape, and size. The complexity and beauty of the world illustrate your desire for abundant life. Your love for us is demonstrated each day as we wake and open our eyes.

Jesus, the One who Loves, so many asked you to heal them, "if you want." Your reply is always, "Yes, I want to. Your "want" fulfills our needs, giving life to our body, our mind, and our spirit.

Holy Spirit, Ever-Present, you are Christ's continuing presence with us. You convict us when we mistake our wants for needs. You make us aware of God's provision in our life. In the same way, you enable this Table to be more than merely a loaf and cup, but to become communion with Christ and one another.

We come to you now with joined voices as we pray to you:

### ✧**The Lord's Prayer**

**All: Spirit of Life and Love, Holy God, Source Eternal,  
in our midst yet still ever so elusive:**

**To breathe your sacred name is a blessing.**

**Your world become,**

**Your will be done here, on Earth,  
inspired by our aspirations to do and be better people.**

**May we have all that we need to survive, live, and thrive.**

**Remind us to be gentle; may we love mercy and kindness,  
recalling the times when we've fallen short ourselves.**

**Call us to be firm; may we not be tempted to follow selfish motivations or  
reside in our narrow privileges, unexamined and uninterrogated;  
move us to counter and overcome evil and injustice in ourselves, our lives,  
and institutions.**

**Yours is the Beloved Community,  
the fire of commitment in our hearts,  
and the spirit of generosity and abundance, now and always. Amen.**

~ Alex Jensen

#### Words of Invitation and the Breaking of the Bread

God asks us to *lift up our eyes on high and see* – as we look up and awaken again to God's presence, may we remember that God equipped and guided and led Jesus to teach and preach and heal.

We come to this Table to remember and proclaim the saving grace of Jesus Christ. This Table doesn't belong to any realm or person of this world. This is the Lord's Table, and at this Table, everyone is welcome to be fed.

#### Communion of the People

##### Prayer after Communion

Faithful and Loving God, in you, we are enough. By your Word, you guide us. By your love, you redeem us. By your presence, you provide for our needs. We are thankful of this assurance in the meal we just shared. May it continue to nourish our bodies and souls so that we may go with strength to the journey before us. In all the moments of our lives, may you alone be glorified.

##### **✧Benediction**

May you run and not be weary.  
May you rise up on the wings of eagles.  
May you know without doubt  
that the everlasting God goes with you! 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** ~ Tippe Musicians

Communion liturgy excerpted and adapted from Rev. Michelle Henrichs' book, "Come to the Table."