



"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

October 22, 2023

9:30 a.m.



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

"Joyful Generosity: Receive Gratefully" Rev. Trish Eckert

✧ **Prelude** *Open My Eyes That I May See* ~ Tippe Musicians

✧ **Welcome and community news**

- Next Sunday, October 29th we welcome Tippe member and elder, Judy Berdan, who will provide a presentation about Divine Intervention during worship.
- Watch for your invitation to participate in Tippe's HUGS campaign in the coming weeks!
- Save the date: Sunday, November 19 Our worship service will include our Congregational Meeting to vote on the proposed 2024 budget

✧ **Readying Ourselves for Worship**

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

✧ **A Poem/Reading/Blessing as we Center Ourselves in this Moment**

✧ **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: Joyful Generosity**

As we move through the season of autumn together, we turn toward the final months of the year and begin to turn our attention toward a new year and our ongoing commitment to live into our call as a community. As we harvest the last of the fruits in the Tippe garden, as we witness the children and families who are thriving at our Arts and Science Literacy Camp, and as we prepare to open our hearts and our building to those without a place to call *home*, we are mindful of the ways we are led to serve, to share, and to participate.

Over the next few weeks, we're going to be reflecting on the concept and practice of stewardship. The dictionary definition of *stewardship* is, "the responsible overseeing and protection of something considered worth caring for and preserving." So often this refers to planning and management - how we use our resources, how we treat the earth, and the investments we make in our institutions and organizations.

As we think about and talk about stewardship, our focus will be on interpersonal connections, interdependence, how to live into the spiritual leadings we experience and pay attention to the ways we bring our gifts to bear in the world. This feels like a

natural progression because we have spent a great deal of time this year exploring what discernment means and how to practice it, we have been intentionally rebuilding and deepening connections among one another and sharing our stories and experiences, and now we turn our attention to where we feel led to put our time, energy, and devotion.

As we begin to contemplate the many facets of stewardship, I say we go with the hardest thing first: *receiving!* 😊 Think about it - don't you find it a challenge to receive? So often it is more comfortable to be the giver rather than the one who is being given something (a compliment, a gift, a moment of compassion, an act of grace). Yet, as we reflect on what it means to receive, we will come to see how this relates to our relationship with the Divine, with one another, and with ourselves. May we come to know the love of God, of self, and of other as we travel together on this journey.

✧ **Gathering Hymn *For the Beauty of the Earth*** (song sheets)
Inspired by The Collegeville Composers Group

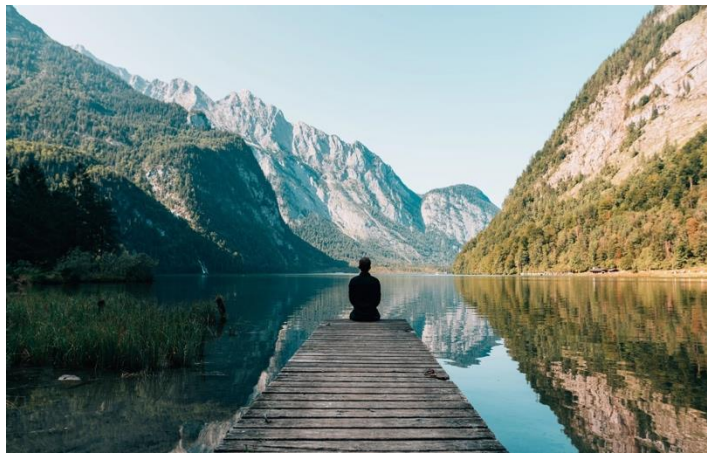
✧ **Opening Ourselves to God's Grace**
Gracious God, Creator of the world, draw us
into prayer and celebration as we gather
to remember the gifts of your earth and
the stewardship you have entrusted to us
as tillers and tenders in your image.

We know that in the gathering of your people,
power is present among us; your Holy Spirit
stirs and moves and gives us courage to
remember that all good gifts come first from you.

We praise you for this creation in the
words of the Psalmist, sung by our
ancestors in faith for generations:

“God speaks: the heavens are made; God
breathes: the stars shine. God bottles the
waters of the sea and stores them in the deep.
All earth, be astounded, stand in awe of God.”

Keep us faithful to this liturgy and send us
out to be fruitful and vibrant inhabitants
of our neighborhoods. Amen.



✧Sharing our Innermost Lives with God

God of many names, we pray to you.

**For your love and goodness,
we give you thanks, O God.**

You of heaven and earth, you who made all things and called them good. Each day you shape the earth in wonder and mystery, surrounding us with goodness and growth.

**For your creativity and goodness,
we give you thanks, O God.**

Yet, we admit to you our dry and anxious spirits, and we confess our anxiety and worry. In your grace, nourish and renew us. In your love and goodness, forgive us.

**Give us healthy lives, lives reflecting your vibrance,
lives ready to bear the fruit of goodness and love
toward all creation, so that we may be living proof
that you are alive and well, flourishing in our world.**

**For your grace and goodness,
we give you thanks, O God.**

Let us use your gifts to make new lives possible among us and beyond us.

**May your Creating Spirit dwell within us,
O God, as we receive, as we give,
and as we share the goodness that surrounds us. Amen.**

✧ **Special Music *We Receive From Your Fullness*** led by Betsy

✧ **Prayer of Intention**

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.

✧ **Bible Wisdom Teachings**

Deuteronomy 34: 1-12 (Moses sees the Promised Land before his death)

Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho, and God showed him the whole land: Gilead as far as Dan, ² all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea, ³ the Negeb, and the Plain—that is, the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees—as far as Zoar. ⁴ God said to him, “This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, “I will give it to your descendants”; I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there.’ ⁵ Then Moses, God’s servant, died there in the land of Moab, at the Sovereign’s command. ⁶ He was buried in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth-peor, but no one knows his burial place to this day. ⁷ Moses was one hundred and twenty years old when he died; his sight was unimpaired and his vigour had not abated. ⁸ The Israelites wept for Moses in the plains of Moab for thirty days; then the period of mourning for Moses was ended.

⁹ Joshua son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, because Moses had laid his hands on him; and the Israelites obeyed him, doing as God had commanded Moses.

¹⁰ Never since has there arisen a prophet in Israel like Moses, whom God knew face to face. ¹¹ He was unequalled for all the signs and wonders that God sent him to perform in the land of Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his servants and his entire land, ¹² and for all the mighty deeds and all the terrifying displays of power that Moses performed in the sight of all Israel.

Matthew 22: 34-40 (The Greatest Commandment)

³⁴ When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, ³⁵ and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. ³⁶ “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” ³⁷ He said to him, ““You shall love God your Sovereign with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.” ³⁸ This is the greatest and first commandment. ³⁹ And a second is like it: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ⁴⁰ On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.’

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 “Joyful Generosity: Receive Gratefully”



✧Reflection Questions

- What process do I use to listen and pay attention to the deepest thing I know?
- When I listen within to my place of deepest knowing, what is it I most long for?
- How do my needs for control and security interfere with naming my needs and/or receiving gracefully/gratefully?

✧Short period of silent reflection

✧Sharing Our Wisdom

✧Hymn *I See You* by Rich Mullins (song sheets) ©CCLI license #1533628

✧Our gifts of support

✧Community Prayers & the Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer ~ interpretation by Leroy Seat

ALL: Our Mother

**Who are in all the earth
Holy is your truth
May your wisdom come
Your circle be one
uniting heaven and earth
Give us today a nurturing spirit
Heal through us
as we as we ourselves are healed
Lead us into Fullness of life
And liberate all that is good
For the Wisdom,
the power, the Presence
and the Goodness are Yours
Now and forever Amen.
Creator God, Redeemer and Sustainer of all that is,
May your Reality be honored by us and by all creation.
May your will be done on earth as it is in your Eternal Realm.
Give us the food we need for our sustenance today.
Forgive our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from times of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the glory and power of the Eternal Realm is yours forever. Amen.**

✧ **Benediction**

Go now into the world,
inspired by the radiant love of God.
Live generously, with open hands,
loving one another
as if your lives depended on it.

Be good stewards of the gifts you have received,
so that God may be glorified in all that you say and do.

And may the abundant love of God surround you,
may the extravagant grace of the Christ sustain you,
and may the constant presence of the Holy Spirit
inspire and encourage you in every word and action. 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** *Freely, Freely* by Carol Owens ~ Tippe Musicians

