



"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 8, 2023

9:30 a.m.



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

“Running on Empty”

Rev. Zo Trembley

✧ **Prelude: *Guide Me O My Great Redeemer*** ~ Tippe musicians

✧ **Welcome and community news**

- Sundays for 6 consecutive weeks from October 15 through November 19 from 11:15 am – 12:45 pm. Diane Wirhanowicz and Carol Meverden will co-facilitate.
- Save these Sunday dates:
 - October 29 Judy Berdan will join us during worship to provide us a presentation about Divine Intervention
 - November 19 in our Congregational Meeting, which will be embedded in our worship service

✧ **Readying Ourselves for Worship**

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

Poetry to Center Ourselves in This Moment

* * *

Becoming Present to God and Each Other . . . Our One-word Check-in

Gathering Hymn: “I Come with Joy,” No. 515, v 1,3,4,5 (GtG)

Opening Ourselves to God’s Grace

One: God has planted many seeds within us;

All: We are called to bear much fruit.

One: God shelters and protects us;

All: We are called to bear good fruit.

One: God nurtures and cultivates us;

All: We are called to bear sweet fruit.

One: God’s grace produces a bountiful harvest:

**All: Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness,
faithfulness, humility, and self-control.**

The Joy of Passing the Peace

Time for Young Hearts

Reading from the Scriptures . . .



The Lesson from the Hebrew Scripture: Isaiah 5:1-6 :
The Lesson from the Gospel: Matthew 21:33-40

Special Music

A Reading from the Epistles: Philippians 3:8-14

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

All: Thanks be to our God. Amen.

Prayer of Confession

One: Dear God, we have valued too much of little consequence
and have ignored things of greatest importance.

All: Help us reassess our values.

We have treasured the dross and missed the gold in our lives.

All: Show us what we need to toss aside, and what we need to hold dear.

We have wasted our energy on worthless pursuits.

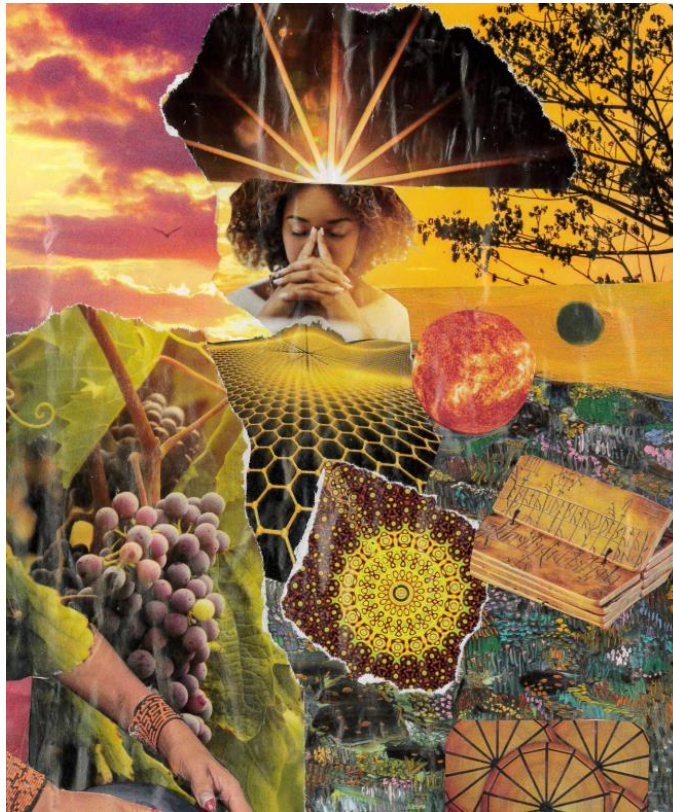
**All: Empower us to seek what is of lasting worth – the truth, love, and justice,
of your eternal Realm. Amen.**

Words of Assurance (from Matthew 21:42)

One: Dear friends, Jesus said, “The stone which the builders rejected as worthless turned out to be the most important of all.

This was done by the Sovereign God; what a wonderful sight it is!”

All: May we have ears that hear, and hearts that see and understand. Amen.



Message: “Running on Empty” (Text: Philippians 3:8) -- The Rev. Zo Trembley

Prayer for Illumination (from Psalm 19:14)

One: May the words of my mouth,

**All: And the meditations of our hearts be acceptable to you,
O God, our rock and our redeemer. Amen.**

Questions for Reflection:

With whom or what do you most sympathetically identify in the Scriptures for today? (*I am most like _____, because . . .*)

With what person or object do you disidentify?
(*I am most unlike _____, because . . .*)

How might you incorporate insights from both these categories to empower your faith journey? (*These traits could help grow me by . . .*)

Response to the Proclamation: Sharing Our Wisdom



Affirmation of Faith

One: We believe . . .

All: In a Creator God of love and life-giving energy that fills the entire Universe.

We believe . . .

In Christ Jesus as the incarnation of God's love that saves us by showing us how to live as our truest and most authentic selves.

We believe . . .

In the indwelling Holy Spirit who demonstrates divine creativity and Christlike love within and among us.

We believe . . .

In the Beloved Community across time and space, which embodies the good news of Christ in the world by healing the sick, feeding the hungry, comforting the broken-hearted, and celebrating the joy of God's realm both already and not-yet present. Amen.

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns, Pastoral Prayer, The Lord's Prayer

Our Parent God, in heaven and on earth:

May your holy name be honored.

May your realm come;

may your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us the food we need for today.

Forgive us the wrongs we have done,

and help us forgive the wrongs that have been done to us.

Do not bring us to hard testing,

and keep us safe from all evil,

For yours is the realm, the power, and the glory,

forever and ever. Amen.

Closing Hymn: "Guide My Feet," No. 741 (GtG)

Benediction . . . 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