



Evening Prayer

September 12, 2020

5:00 p.m.

The format is from the Iona Community: An Evening Service of Welcome (adapted)

PRELUDE

"Intermezzo" from *Petite Suite*

Gerald Bales

OPENING SENTENCES

O Lord God you made the earth and the heavens,
You caused a stream to rise up in the garden,
And you have watered the whole face of the ground.
Open our eyes to your goodness,
And do not let us hide ourselves from your presence.
Be our shield and our reward.
Help us to count the stars.
Even when we intend to do harm,
You intend our actions for good,
And always provide for us and our little ones.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.
Lord God, grand architect of the universe,
Your design of creation is unflawed. Yet we continue to litter your creation with defects and imperfections. Show us how not to destroy, but to create, not to demean, but to uplift, not to hate, but to love, so that your creation may be made perfect once again.
Amen.

FIRST READING

John 1:1-5, 10-14

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹² But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

NARRATIVE READING

Genesis 2:4b-7; 15-17; 3:1-8

In the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens, ⁵ when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up—for the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground; ⁶ but a stream would rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the ground— ⁷ then the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being.

¹⁵ The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. ¹⁶ And the Lord God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; ¹⁷ but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

¹ Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, "You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?" ² The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; ³ but God said, "You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.' " ⁴ But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; ⁵ for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶ So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. ⁷ Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves. ⁸ They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

MUSICAL REFLECTION

CREED

We Believe in the Breath of God / Breathwork

(Take a deep breath and place a hand over your heart)

We Believe in the Breath of God
A rhythm in our chest
A movement from heaven to heart
And outward to everyone else

We Believe in the Breath of God
That hovers over the face of the deep
that moves until every captive is freed
that gives until no one is left in need

We Believe in the Breath of God
We will use this breath to speak for those who can't breathe
to weep with those who weep
to grieve with those who grieve

We will use this breath to practice what we preach
to become God's hands and feet
in the church and in the street

We Believe in the Breath of God
creating justice, revealing love
beyond buildings, but the resilience God builds in us

to confess, repent, and repair
not in guilt, blame or shame
but through courage and compassion
until our humanity is reclaimed

We Believe in the Breath of God
to help our unbelief
that we might give our every breath
until we all can breathe.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

We gather as your beloved children giving thanks for the church, the world and all that you have made.

Each petition concludes:
God of love,
hear our prayer.

For all we have named and for all known only to you, we pray in Jesus name. **Amen.**

GUIDED PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us, let us pray as our Savior taught:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

BENEDICTION

The God who made the earth and the heavens, who has made you heir to all goodness, and who has saved you from the pit continue to bless and keep you, reassure you and open your eyes, from this day on and forever more. In the name of the Creator, Redeemer and + Breath of Life.

Amen.

Having shared this time – may our life in community – in all ways together – reflect the dance of the Trinity by which the world is blessed.

The peace of the Lord be with you all.

And also with you.

MUSICAL MEDITATION

Meditation on LAC QUI PARLE

Isaac Drewes

“Many and great, O god, are your works, maker of earth and sky. Your hands have set the heav’ns with stars; your fingers spread the mountains and plains. Lo, at your word the waters were formed; deep seas obey your voice.” ELW 837

PREACHING: Pastor Peter Nycklemoe
PRESIDING: Pastor Melissa Pohlman
ASSISTING: Joe Davis
MUSICIAN: Isaac Drewes
VIDEO/SOUND: Mark Kieffer

*Chancel flowers this weekend are
given by the Floral Guild.
If you wish to donate flowers, contact Judy Korogi
10 days in advance at (612) 788-1288.*