Welcome

Betsy

Prelude

Rekindling in the midst of our living...

The Call

Inspired by 2 Peter 3, *The Inclusive Bible*

Beloved, this is the second letter I have written you...
Keep in mind that in the last days naysayers will show up to deride you,
all the while following their own evil desires, and asking,
"Where is this promised ‘coming’ you speak of?"
This point must not be overlooked, dear friends:
in the eyes of the Most High,
one day is like a thousand years,
and a thousand years are like a day.
God does not delay in keeping the promise.
Rather, God shows you generous patience...
What we await are new heavens and a new earth where,
according to the promise,
God’s justice will reside.
So, beloved, while waiting for this,
make every effort to be found at peace
and without wrongdoing in God’s sight.
Consider God’s patience as your opportunity for Shalom...

Gathering Song

“Come, O Long-expected Jesus”
Gathering Prayer

O Holy One,
we live in an uncertain world—
we are weary, numb, hopeful, confused;
we are exhausted, determined, innovative, grief-stricken.
Source of every blessing,
forgive us when we lose our way,
or worse yet,
when we are overcome with indifference or complicity.
Rekindle a spirit of love and self-discipline within us.
Stir up our high, holy embers,
that your spirit may revive our journey toward Shalom.
It is through Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, we pray. Amen.

Children’s Time with Ms. Judy

Scripture Reading Matthew 25:1-13 (The Inclusive Bible)

“Then again, the kindom of heaven could be likened to ten attendants who took their lamps and went to meet the bridal party. Five of them were wise; five were foolish. When the foolish ones took their lamps, they didn’t take any oil with them, but the wise ones took enough oil to keep their lamps burning. The bridal party was delayed, so they all fell asleep.

At midnight there was a cry: ‘Here comes the bridal party! Let’s go to meet them!’ Then all the attendants rose and trimmed their lamps. The foolish ones said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ But the wise replied, ‘Perhaps there won’t be enough for us; run to the dealers and get some more for yourselves.’

While the foolish ones went to buy more oil, the bridal party arrived; and those who were ready went to the marriage feast with them, and the door was shut. When the foolish attendants returned, they pleaded to be let in. The doorkeeper replied, ‘The truth is, I don’t know you.’
So stay awake, for you don’t know the day or the hour.”

Music for Reflection

Message “To Keep Our Embers Burning”

Prayers of the People/Lord’s Prayer
Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed by thy name. Thy kindom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kindom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Song of Response “Change of Heart”
Merry Keller, vocalist, all of them

Moment for Mission Mission & Outreach offerings Judy Kamper
Thanksgiving to God

Blessing and Commissioning

Sending Forth Song

“Pass It On” vv. 1 & 3

Sources:

The Call is comprised of excerpts from 2 Peter 3 in the Inclusive Bible.

The Gathering Prayer is adapted from a post on the Ministry Matters website. http://www.ministrymatters.com/
Come, O Long-expected Jesus

1. Come, O long-expected Jesus, born to set your people free.
2. Born your people to deliver, born a child, and yet a king.

From our fears and sins release us; Christ, in whom our rest shall be.
born to reign in us forever, born your gracious realm to bring.

You, our strength and consolation, come salvation to impart;
By your own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;

dear desire of many a nation, joy of many a longing heart.
by your all-sufficient merit raise us to your glorious throne.

WORDS: Charles Wesley, 1744
MUSIC: Rowland H. Prichard, 1830; harm. The English Hymnal, 1906
Pass It On

1. It only takes a spark to get a fire going,
2. What a wondrous time is spring when all the trees are budding,
3. I wish for you, my friend, this happiness that I’ve found—

and soon all those around can warm up in its glowing;
the birds begin to sing, the flowers start their blooming;
on God you can depend, it matters not where you’re bound;

that’s how it is with God’s love, once you’ve experienced it:
that’s how it is with God’s love, once you’ve experienced it:
I’ll shout it from the mountain top, I want my world to know:

you spread God’s love to everyone, you want to pass it on.
you want to sing, it’s fresh like spring, you want to pass it on.
the Lord of love has come to me, I want to pass it on.