Welcome

Lighting the Christ Candle
Carol and Rick Bender

Prelude
Our images of the beauty of the earth

Call to Worship

“It was common to hear in certain circles the disbelieving cries,
‘This is not America,’ or
‘I don’t recognize my country,’ or
‘This is not who we are.’
Except that this was and is our country
and this was and is who we are,
whether we have known or recognized it or not.”

- Isabel Wilkerson, *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontent*

Gathering Song
“Kyrie Elieson” (Lord Have Mercy)
Andy Beck
Amelia Lloyd, vocalist

Gathering Prayer
Who is this who enters the doors of our temple,
who overturns the tables,
strews silver and gold on the floor,
frees the sacrificial doves from gilded cages?
Listen, as they rise, the beating of their wings
is a song of loud hosanna.
It is Jesus of Galilee, God revealed to us, who comes to cleanse the great temple, to restore its subverted chambers to a house of hallowed prayer. Then let us open the doors of our hearts even wider, so he can cast out the thieves who would take what is sacred and tender and turn it hard as gold in a fist.

**May the temple within us**
be a refuge where doves of peace roost in the rafters.
**May it be a garden**
that bears the fruits of a generous spirit.
Oh Lord, take what is corrupt and withered and let it break forth in beauty.
For thine is the kin-dom and the power and the glory forever.
**Amen.**

**Children’s Time**

**For Reflection**

“To be a Christian is to live dangerously, honestly, freely - to step in the name of love as if you may land on nothing, yet to keep on stepping because the something that sustains you no empire can give you and no empire can take away.”

- Cornel West

**Scripture Reading**

Mark 11:15-18 (The Voice)

They continued into Jerusalem and made their way up to the temple. Upon reaching the temple that morning, Jesus dealt with those who were selling and buying animals for sacrifices and drove them out of the area. He turned over the tables of those who exchanged money for the temple pilgrims and the seats of those selling birds, and he physically prevented anyone from carrying anything through the temple.

**Jesus** (to those who were listening): Didn’t the prophets write, “My house will be called a house of prayer, for all the people”? But you have made it into a “haven for thieves.”

The chief priests and the scribes heard these words and knew Jesus was referring to them, so they plotted his destruction. They had grown afraid of him because his teachings struck the crowds into astonishment.

**Music for Reflection**

**Message**

Clarity in the Chaos | Part 2

**Prayers of the People/Lord’s Prayer**

Our Father who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kindom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily braid, 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

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation
This is for you,
but it may change you
from one who is anxiously concerned
about their own redemption

into one who knows
that Christ's body is the earth,
and all who walk upon it
are one in Him

into knowing that
we are not redeemed
by our being good
but by our being connected

into knowing that
daring to eat
at the table of Jesus Christ
has unimaginable consequences.

So come,
come to be made whole,
and to participate in the work
of making us one with Him and each other.

Blessing
Let us bless the bread
that gives itself to us
with its terrible weight,
its infinite grace.

Let us bless the cup
poured out for us
with a love that drenches,
that makes us anew.

Let us gather
around these gifts
simply given
and deeply blessed.
And then let us go bearing the bread, carrying the cup, laying the table within a hungering world. Amen.

“Come to the Table”
Amelia Lloyd, vocalist

Words of Institution
Sharing of Bread and Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving
And then, filled with grace and gratitude, let us go bearing the bread, carrying the cup, laying the table within a hungering world. Amen.

Breathing in God’s Blessings

Blessing and Commissioning

Sending Forth Song
“We Are Called” vv. 1 & 2

Sources:

Gathering Prayer is adapted from Shari Miller Wagner, in Celebrating the Season. Posted on the website of the Indiana-Michigan Mennonite Conference.


Communion Blessing and Prayer of Thanksgiving written by Jan L. Richardson, and posted on The Painted Prayerbook. http://paintedprayerbook.com/
Lead Us from Death to Life

Refrain
C C7 F
G C G/B Am

Lead us from death to life, from false-hood to truth, from despair to hope, from fear to trust. Lead us from hate to love, from war to peace; let peace fill our hearts, let peace fill our world, let peace fill our universe.

Stanzas

2 John 1:3; Isa. 2:2–4
Stanzas, Marty Haugen, 1985

Last time, end

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1 Still all the angry cries, still all the angry guns, still now your
2 So many lonely hearts, so many broken lives, longing for
3 Let justice ever roll, let mercy fill the earth, let us be-

people die, earth's sons and daughters. Let justice roll, let
love to break into their anguish. Come, teach us love,
gin to grow into your people. We can be love,

mercy pour down, come and teach us your way of compassion.
come, teach us peace, come and teach us your way of compassion.
we can bring peace, we can still be your way of compassion.
WE ARE CALLED

Verses

1. Come! Live in the light!
2. Come! Open your heart!
3. Sing! Sing a new song!

1. Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord! We are called to be light for the kingdom,
2. Show your mercy to all those in fear! We are called to be hope for the hopeless,
3. Sing of that great day when all will be one! God will reign, and we'll walk with each other as

1. live in the freedom of the city of God!
2. hated and blindness will be no more!
3. sisters and brothers united in love!

Refrain

We are called to act with justice, we are called to love tenderly, we are called to serve one another; to walk humbly with God.