

Notice, Turn, Give Thanks | Communion Sunday

The Power of Community, Connection, and Caring

MEDITATION

*“When we forget the ground from which we grow, we lose the gift.
To be thankful is to return—to turn again—to the source of life.” –Wendall Berry*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING WORDS

L: And now may the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you. **P: And also with you.**

PRELUDE

“Heart of God”

*Music: Aodhan King and Jonas Myrin
Arranged: Matt Schinske*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Melessa Fox, Deacon

L: Come, people of God—open your eyes to see grace all around.

All: We come to *notice* God’s gifts.

L: Turn your hearts toward the One who heals, welcomes, and makes us whole.

All: We come to *turn* toward Jesus.

L: Lift your voices in joy and gratitude—for every breath, every kindness, every act of love.

All: We come to *give thanks* to God! Let us worship the One who turns our noticing into praise, and our gratitude into grace.

*SONG OF REJOICING

“Rejoice in the Lord Always” 2x

In Pew

OPENING PRAYER

Melessa Fox, Deacon

Holy and Gracious God, you scatter blessings like sunlight—so many that we sometimes rush past them. Help us to *notice* the gifts that surround us. When our hearts grow distracted or weary, *turn us* again toward you—the source of mercy, healing, and hope. And as we gather at your table today, teach us to *give thanks* not out of habit, but out of joy and wonder. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN

“For the Beauty of The Earth” vs. 1,3,4

Black 28

WORD FOR ALL GOD’S CHILDREN

Lisa Allen, Church-Life Coordinator

ANTHEM

“In Time of Holy Communion”

Choir

Words: Carlton C. Buck, Music: Eugene Butler

SCRIPTURE READINGS | Psalm 30: 1-5, p. 621 & Luke 17:11-19, p. 98

Melessa Fox, Deacon & Rev. Christina Williams

L: The Word of God for the people of God. **All: Thanks be to God.**

REFLECTION

“Notice, Turn, Give Thanks”

Rev. Christina Williams

*RESPONSIVE HYMN

“God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending” vs. 1,2,4

Black 565

PASTORAL PRAYER & PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

During the prayers of the people, you are invited to share your joys and concerns out loud. All are invited to respond, “O Lord, hear our prayers.”

THE LORD’S PRAYER *(All are invited to sing.)*

In Pew

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC

“Psalm 139”

Choir

Words: Psalm 139: 1-8, 23-24, Music: Allen Pote

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessing flow;

Praise God all creatures here below;

Praise God for all that love had done:

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One Amen.

*UNISON OFFERTORY PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Giver of every good and perfect gift, we bring our offerings with thankful hearts. You bless us with abundance—with daily bread and a love that never ends. May these gifts become instruments of your healing and joy. As we give, turn us again toward you, so that our gratitude may become grace for others. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

See insert

*CLOSING HYMN

“Great is Your Faithfulness”

Black 423

*BENEDICTION

SUNG BENEDICTION

“I Will Come to You”

*Choir and the Cherub Choir
David Haas*

POSTLUDE

“The Lord is My Light”

Oley Speaks

** Please stand in body or spirit.*

Many thanks to the volunteers who enriched our morning together!

Tech Deacon: Amelia Allen; **Choir:** Linda Thomas, Joyce Kenneally, Meg Tivey, Alan King, Chris Polloni, Clifford Moore; **Cherub Choir:** Bella, Kiki and Iyanu; **Hospitality:** Cindy Kaleskas & Hank Bertsch, **Snacks:** Rosemary Carey

Leading worship today: Rev. Christina Williams, Minister, Stephanie Miles, Music director, Lisa Allen, Church-life co-director, Melessa Fox, Deacon

NEW HERE TODAY?

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey you are welcome here!

To help you navigate Sunday mornings with us, please see the guide below.

1. **Order of Worship:** **An asterisk means stand in body or spirit. **Bold text** is spoken in unison.*
2. **Kid's Connection:** *On Communion Sundays the children join us in worship as they engage in activities in their pray space.*
3. **TAKE TWO** *is an adult faith formation group that meets after worship with Lisa Allen every other Sunday. Join the discussion next Sunday.*
4. **Coffee and Conversation:** *You are welcome to gather with us after worship to meet some new friends in the Covenant Room, down the hall on the right.*
5. **Have Questions?** *Please reach out to Rev. Christina or the Deacon of the day.*

Music covered under One License #A-728849

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Communion will be distributed. Grape juice and gluten-free bread are served.

HYMN OF INVITATION “Come to the Table of Grace” (grace, hope, joy) *Insert*

RESPONSIVE INVITATION TO THE TABLE

L: This is the table of gratitude and grace—the place where all are welcome, where we pause to *notice* the gifts of God.

All: We come, not out of obligation, but with holy desire.

L: Like the one who *turned back* to Jesus, we turn from hurry and distraction to the One who makes us whole.

All: We come to *turn* toward Christ, whose love welcomes the outsider and gathers us in.

L: Come—see, turn, and taste the goodness of God. Here is bread for the journey, and the cup of new life.

All: We come to *give thanks* for the gifts of grace and belonging.

PRAISE AND THANKS

L: For the earth that feeds us, the sky that shelters us, for beauty that stirs our hearts and kindness that surprises us—

All: We notice and give thanks.

L: For Jesus, who crossed every boundary to heal and include, who teaches us to see one another as gifts—

All: We turn toward him in gratitude.

L: For your Spirit moving among us, mending what is broken, awakening compassion and joy—

All: We turn toward your presence, O God.

L: For this bread and cup, simple gifts filled with your mystery and mercy—

All: We give thanks with open hearts.

L: For your love that makes us whole—

All: We notice, turn, and give thanks to you, O God of grace!

PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

L: Come, Holy Spirit—Breath of Life. Bless this bread and this cup, that they may become for us signs of healing and hope. As we eat and drink, fill us with the joy of gratitude that cannot stay silent.

All: Make us one body—restored, forgiven, and sent to bring your love to the world. In Christ's name. Amen.

SHARING BREAD AND CUP

The gifts of God—noticed, turned toward, and shared in gratitude.

RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Come, Holy Spirit—Breath of Life and Love. Bless this bread and cup, so that in sharing them we may truly *notice* Christ among us. Turn our hearts toward your justice and peace. Make our gratitude overflow into acts of healing and hope for the world. Through Christ, our hope and our joy. Amen.