

Worship Outline

September 1, 2019

Communion Sunday

Gathering

As you arrive, take a moment and consider where you will sit. Today we will not sit in our usual spots. If you are able, consider splitting up family groups. If you usually sit in the front move to the middle. On the right? Move to the left side.

Prelude

In Thee Is Gladness
arr. Douglas Wagner

+Call to Worship (responsive)

Come into this place,
Come tall and come small,
**Come join us, whoever,
God calls one and all.**

Let's take up our place
at God's banquet for all,
**we sit where we're able;
we serve one and all.**

Let us worship together
and remember God's call
**to love one another;
to serve one and all.**

+Invocation

Let us pray...
Hospitable God, you invite us to a banquet
where the last may be first,
and the humble and the mighty trade places.

Let us share your abundance with no fear of scarcity;
let us greet strangers as angels you have sent!
Send your Spirit now
so that we may find a place at your table
and welcome others with radical hospitality.
In the name of Jesus, Guest at all our tables, we pray. Amen.

+Hymn 69

I, the Lord of Sea and Sky

Unison Prayer of Confession

God invites us to mutual love.
But to find that mutuality, we must release
our need for honor,
our desire for privilege.
In humility let us seek forgiveness,
trusting in the promises of God
in Christ Jesus our Lord.

God hear my confession. I struggle. Everyday. I am pushed and pulled between what I want and what I need. Between what I should do and what I actually do. Between my desire to serve and my desire to just be let off the hook. And now, I have this table to think about and your hard questions to answer: Who is missing? Who do I exclude? Who do I think is not worthy of your welcome? And, I wonder, O Lord, if deep down, I think it just may be me.

Silence is kept.

Assurance (responsive)

God is merciful and slow to anger.
God seeks the lost and extends the invitation again and again.
God welcomes us when we turn to God.
Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel,
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Welcome and the Peace

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Gathering Song 399

*God welcomes all, strangers and friends;
God's love is strong and it never ends.*

Let's sing it three times.

Sharing the Story

Opening the Word with Young Disciples

Scripture

Luke 14: 1, 7-14

Let us pray...

Open our eyes to see the coming of your Kingdom.

Open our ears to hear the whispers of your word.

Open our hearts to know the challenge of your calling.

Open our minds to grasp our part in your plan. Amen.

A reading from the gospel of Luke. Let us listen for God's word.

On one occasion when Jesus^[a] was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.

7 When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. 8

“When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; 9 and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, ‘Give this person your place,’ and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. 10 But when you

are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. 11 For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

12 He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. 13 But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. 14 And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

Sermon

Rev. Liz Rolf Kanerva

Anthem

You Say
Lauren Daigle
Maddie Kanerva

Eucharist

Offering

Invitation

As God has welcomed us,
let us extend God's blessings by sharing our tithes and offerings
in support of Christ's ministry today.

Offertory

Just As I Am
arr. Victor C. Johnson

+Doxology 606

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

+Dedication

Dear God, you have offered us a place at the table
and you have called us to share without expectation of being repaid.
You have called us to make a place for the poor,
the outcast and the oppressed.
So we ask that you bless these resources
so that they might support ministries of compassion and justice
until all of your children have a place at the table. Amen.

+Hymn 769

For Everyone Born

Invitation

The bread is ready, the cup is filled,
the table is set.
Let all who are hungry for the love of God,
come and be fed.
Let all who are thirsty for new life,
come and share the cup.
Let all who want to follow Jesus,
come and join the feast.

Great Thanksgiving (responsive)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

People of God, lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the God who welcomes us at this table.

Let us sing aloud to God.

We will offer glad songs of thanksgiving to the One who delivers us.

We would sing aloud
our songs of joy to you,
Master of the Universe.
Out of the emptiness of chaos,
you brought forth creation,
**plentiful with all we need,
graced with gifts beyond imagination.**

Offered the place of honor
in your good Garden,
**we filled our souls with worthless lies,
moving out of glory's neighborhood
into the junkyard of the world.**

Prophets brought your word of judgment,
and your gracious invitation to come home,
**but we would not listen
to the advice they offered to us.**

Then you sent Jesus,
who humbled himself
that we might be exalted.

Therefore, we come to your Table singing,
our voices joining with those
in every time and in every place,
lifting our glad songs to you:

Glory to God 572

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of all power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, Mothering God,
and blessed is Jesus Christ, our Lord, our life.
Glorified as your true child,
he came to show hospitality

to all the strangers of the world.

Deserving of the seat of honor,
**he humbled himself
to serve the guests.**

Refusing to let us be left
in the hands
of sin and death,
**he entered that prison
we call the grace
to set us free to live with you.**

As we remember his life and death,
as we come to the table of the resurrection,
we speak of that mystery we call faith:

Glory to God 573

**Christ has died;
Christ is risen;
Christ will come again.**

Send your Holy Spirit
upon the bread and the cup,
simple gifts from creation
which grace us with your life,
and upon those who gather
around your table.

**Fed with the finest wheat,
may we go forth to fill the lives
of all whose emptiness
imprisons them.**

Having tasted the cup of joy,
**may we bring the sweet honey of hope
to those parched by despair.**

Welcomed without question
at your table of grace,
may we open our hearts

**to throw a party for all
who have been forsaken by the world.**

And when we gather around the wedding feast in glory,
with all the poor, the broken, the prisoners, the oppressed -
**we will open our mouths to receive your joy,
and sing aloud to you
our praise for all eternity:
God in community, Holy in one. Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Closing Prayer

Sending

+Hymn 543

God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me

+Benediction and Blessing

As you have feasted at the table at God's invitation,
go into the world renewed and restored.
Go into the world to share to Good News
that there is a place for everyone at God's banquet table.
Go into the world to share God's bounty.

+Congregational Benediction 648

*Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell everyone what
God has done. Let everyone who seeks the Lord
Rejoice and bear the name of Christ.
Send us with your promises and lead your people
Forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving.
Alleluia, alleluia.*

Postlude

Praeludium in C
J.S. Bach