



**Peace United Church of Christ
Ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve
November 22, 2017**



WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS - Meet & Greet

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (*Leader – Congregation*)

Leader: From a world of violence, hatred and separation, we enter this space to embrace the possibilities of love, justice, pleasure and peace.

Congregation: **From many walks and stages of life, we come together to give thanks and praise for the presence and call of God.**

Leader: We join in song, prayer, learning and hope as we listen for that call.

Congregation: **Come let us listen together for God's word and God's call.**

All: **Come let us worship God.**

***OPENING HYMN** #422 (NCH)

"Come, O Thankful People, Come"

WE WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH

***LITANY OF CONFESSION** (*Leader – Congregation*)

Leader: Thanksgiving – a day to celebrate and share the abundance we know year round.

All: **Forgive us, Gracious God, for 364 Days of selfish desires to set requirements and barriers between the hungry and our abundant harvests.**

Leader: Thanksgiving – a day to gather with family, friends, and give thanks for community.

All: **Forgive us, Dear God, for pushing away the stranger, ignoring the racial divide, denying the worth of the refugee.**

Leader: Thanksgiving- a day to embrace a culture of acceptance and openness of opportunity.

All: **Forgive us, Loving God, for closing our eyes to the hatred and bullying of those whose sexual orientation is different from ours.**

Leader: Thanksgiving – a day to give thanks for a society of diversity and freedom.

All: **Forgive us, God, for ignoring the abuse of others because of their gender or their status. And hear now our silent prayers of confession for things we have done and things we have failed to do.**

***DECLARATION OF PARDON**

Leader: Amen. Let us say what we truly believe.

All: **Our confessions are witness to our belief that as we forgive others, God forgives us and that forgiveness is assured by our faith in God's continuing presence as promised by the life, death and resurrection of Jesus whom we believe to be the Christ. Therefore, we declare and accept God's forgiveness. AMEN.**

***THE GLORIA PATRI** "Glory Be to the Father"

WE SHARE IN GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Exodus 16:1-8

Mark 6:30-44

SERMON "Groaning Tables and Open Doors?"

WE JOIN OUR HEARTS IN PRAYER

PRAYER HYMN #547 (NCH) "Amazing Grace"

TIME OF PRAYER Pastoral Prayer - Silent Prayer

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom 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 kingdom, and the power,

and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

IN THANKFULNESS WE PRESENT OUR OFFERING

PRESENT OUR GIFTS: *We are on the way with you, gracious God. We put our faith in you. Bless our giving and our gifts.*

OFFERTORY

***Offering Response**

Doxology - "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

***OFFERTORY PRAYER** (unison)

Gracious and Loving God, as stewards of that which has been shared with us, we are grateful for the opportunity to share with this community. Enable us to use this offering, we pray, in ways that continue to be responsive to Your call to feed the hungry, lift up the broken hearted, welcome the stranger. And we give thanks that as stewards of these gifts, that call continues to be heard and welcomed in our midst. Amen.

WE ARE SENT FORTH

***CLOSING HYMN #28 (NCH) "For the Beauty of the Earth"**

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

*When you see an * in the bulletin, you are invited to stand in body or in spirit.*