

Welcome / Announcements / Land Acknowledgement

As we gather for worship in Jesus' name, we remember that we do so on the traditional and unceded territory of the ləkʷəŋən and the WSÁNEĆ. We acknowledge their stewardship of this land throughout the ages. As we pray, reflect, and celebrate in this place, we do so as guests lamenting injustice and asking God to lead us along paths of reconciliation – inspiring new relationships of respect and solidarity.

➤ *Come, Holy Spirit (Gaither)*

Call to Worship

We know our need for everything that God provides

And so we come seeking

Forgiveness that restores and renews,

Grace that amazes and enables

Community that strengthens and supports

Truth that informs and guides

Love that redeems and heals

And God is truly in our midst

➤ *Be still for the presence of the Lord*

† Gathering Prayer / Words of Hope

Loving God, you bid us be all we can be and you accept us as we are. We pray that by your grace and power, those things that are stumbling blocks to our spiritual growth may be overcome. Show us the way in this time of worship. Teach us through the events of our lives.

When our capacity to sin binds us with tension, enable us to relax by trusting in your forgiveness. When our situation is one of peril or distress, enable us to discover in your love the resource of restoration. When our frailties get us down and keep us there, enable us to laugh at ourselves by relying on your strength. When our tendency to become burdened by our cares makes us anxious, enable us to respond to your invitation to participate freely in the grace and abundant life of Christ. Lead us, we pray, in the way of Jesus. Amen

There is no greater good than the goodness of God, no forgiveness more thorough, no love more attentive, no power more enabling. All thanks be to God!

† Prayer for Understanding

How do you find us, O God? How readily do we open ourselves to your Holy Word, to your Spirit, to your presence in our lives? Help us to trust in your abundant love. Open our senses. Open our lives. Open each one of us – to you. Amen

Scripture response between scripture texts

➤ *Rise Up, Rise Up* MV 130

Genesis 32: 22-30

The same night he (Jacob) got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, *"Let me go, for the day is breaking."*

But Jacob said, *"I will not let you go, unless you bless me."*

So he said to him, *"What is your name?"*

And he said, *"Jacob."*

Then the man said, *"You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans and have prevailed."*

Then Jacob asked him, *"Please tell me your name."*

But he said, *"Why is it that you ask my name?"* And there he blessed him.

So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, *"For I have seen God face to face, yet my life is preserved."*

➤ *Rise Up, Rise Up* MV 130

1 Kings 19: 1-15a

Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, *"So may the gods do to me, and more also, if I do not make your life like the life of one of them by this time tomorrow."*

Then he (Elijah) was afraid; he got up and fled for his life, and came to Beer-sheba, which belongs to Judah; he left his servant there. But he himself went a day's journey into the

wilderness and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: *"It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors."*

Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, *"Get up and eat."*

He looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank and lay down again. The angel of the LORD came a second time, touched him, and said, *"Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be too much for you."*

He got up and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God. At that place he came to a cave and spent the night there. Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, *"What are you doing here, Elijah?"*

He answered, *"I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."*

He (the angel?) said, *"Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by."*

Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence.

When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, *"What are you doing here, Elijah?"*

He answered, *"I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."*

Then the LORD said to him, *"Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus."*

➤ *Rise Up, Rise Up* *MV 130*

Matthew 15: 21-28

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, *"Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon."*

But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, *“Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.”*

He answered, *“I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.”*

But she came and knelt before him, saying, *“Lord, help me.”*

He answered, *“It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.”*

She said, *“Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.”*

Then Jesus answered her, *“Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.”*

And her daughter was healed from that moment.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

➤ *Rise Up, Rise Up* *MV 130*

Message

➤ *Who made the earth and the heaven* *339*

Offering and Prayer

With deep gratitude for the healing and freedom that Jesus offers, let us present our offerings to God. Through our gifts, may that healing and freedom be shared generously in Jesus’ name.

➤ *Praise God from whom all blessings flow* *306*

O God, we place our hope and trust in your loving kindness. Because we want to praise you with more than just words, we offer our gifts to support Christ’s mission of justice and care in the world. Bless these gifts and use our energy for your good purposes, so that the world will know your loving kindness. Amen

† Pastoral Prayers and the Lord’s Prayer

Loving God, we offer thanks this day for the church – body of Christ, vessel of the Spirit, family of faith, witness in the world.

Help us to consider Christ in all we do, letting our decisions be made as with his mind, our relationships be formed as with his heart, our deeds be done as with his hands.

Encourage us to go where the Spirit moves us, individually and as a congregation, opening ourselves to the possibilities of service that you imagine for us and equip us to accomplish.

Strengthen this congregation as a family of faith, bonding together in mutual support, keeping ever close to you.

Enable each one here to be bold witnesses, for we know that the world is in need of good news, and we sense in our spirits the importance of conveying your love to all.

*Hear our prayer – words offered in gratitude and praise, confidence, and trust, all in the name of Jesus the Christ in whose name we pray together... **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. Amen***

➤ *Wherever I may wander*

Blessing

Our God is the renewer of covenants – the restorer of souls – the redeemer of all creation. Receive God's love and relay it to others through word and deed. And may the grace of the risen Christ, the love of God and the nurturing community of the Spirit embrace us all.

➤ *Jump with joy*

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