

World Food Day

**CALL TO WORSHIP (Unison)**

Come, let's praise God together!  
For God is great, and worthy of our praise!  
Let's tell stories of the things God has done –  
Mighty acts of power and love throughout history:  
For God is great, and worthy of our praise!  
Let's remember how much he loves us,  
And celebrate the care he continues  
To show all of creation;  
For God is great, and worthy of our praise!  
Let's worship God together

**OPENING PRAYER: (Unison)**

Good and gracious God, You are gathering this community from across the earth, Asking us to pour out our lives on behalf of those who hunger. For hope, for justice, for daily bread, You Are asking us to see the earth as you do, so very, very good. Trees with fruit, bursting with seed. Green plants for food, for humans and for every living creature. As a holy place for everything that breathes and to whom you have given life. Yet we see the realities before us and it takes our breath away: Those whose bellies growl every day. Those who consume more than their share. Breathe new life into us...As a global community, as local congregations, Gather us together so that we may remind each other of your intent for this earth. Gather us so that we may pour out our lives in Christ's name, as Christ does on behalf of those who hunger. AMEN

OPENING HYMN: # 759 In Loving Partnership

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND RENEWAL:**

You asked for my hands that you might use them for your purposes. I gave them for a moment then withdrew them for the work was hard. You asked for my mouth to speak out against justice. I gave a whisper that I might not be accused. You asked for my eyes to see the pain of poverty. I closed them for I did not want to see. You asked for my life that you might work through me. I gave you a small part that I might not get "too involved." Lord, forgive me for calculated efforts to serve you only when it is convenient for me to do so, and only with those who make it easy to do so. Lord, forgive me, renew me, send me out as a usable instrument that I may take seriously the meaning of your cross. AMEN

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE:**

**PASSING OF THE PEACE:**

**Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you**

**Congregation: And also with you**

**ANTHEM**

**VIDEO/STORIES**

**HYMN: #717 We cannot own the sunlit sky.**

**DRAMATIC READING: John 6:1-15**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

**Ephesians 3:14-21**

**HYMN: #717. Verse 3**

**MEDITATION**

**OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY HYMN: #79 Praise God from whom all blessings flow**

**OFFERTORY PRAYER: (Unison)**

**God of mercy, the gifts we bring are so small in comparison to the vast needs in our world—nowhere near enough to save the thousands who are dying of starvation or malnutrition, or even to meet the need of hungry and homeless in our city. Yet we come with open hands, bringing what we can. As You once multiplied the five small loaves and two fish, multiply these gifts as well so that, once again, the hungry may receive all they need and more. AMEN**

**PRAYER FOR OTHERS**

**CLOSING HYMN: #775 Sent forth by your blessing**

**BENEDICTION (Unison)**

**We dare to dream of a world in which hunger is unknown: where scarcity is an illusion, and everyone has a place at the table. We dare to dream of a world in which generosity is the norm: where greed finds no foothold, and there is more than enough for all. We dare to dream of a world in which love rules: where compassion is the first response and there is no place for bigotry. We dare to dream. We dare to pray. We dare to believe. AMEN**