

DATE February 7, 2021 THEME Souper Bowl

God's People Gather

Prelude

Prelude Pondering

"You pray for the hungry. Then you feed them. This is how prayer works."

- Pope Francis

Call to Worship

Leader: Welcome to this place:

People: where children and seasoned citizens serve together, where God has been, is, and always will be.

Leader: Welcome to this place, as we gather with all of God's children:

People: where we find God's love, where we hear the tender voice of Jesus.

Leader: Welcome to this place, where all is made ready by our God:

People: where we bring our hunger, and find food; where we bring our brokenness, and find healing; where we bring our very selves, and find acceptance.

All: Let us worship God.

Opening Song

God Will Make A Way

God will make a way

Where there seems to be no way,

He works in ways we cannot see,

He will make a way for me.

God will make a way

Where there seems to be no way,

He works in ways we cannot see,

He will make a way for me.

God will make a way

Where there seems to be no way,

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God will make a way

Where there seems to be no way,

He works in ways we cannot see,
He will make a way for me.

Prayer of Confession

O God, you speak to us of compassion, but the ways in which we treat others show we have not been listening. We choose up sides, forgetting that everyone is on your team. You explain your hopes to us, and we act as if we don't have a clue as to what is going on. We run from you as fast and as far as we can, and wonder why we have no energy to follow Jesus. But you search for wherever we run, so you can take us by the hand to show us the way to life with you. Forgive us, God! Heal our broken hearts so we can offer them to others. Fill us with your strength so we can bind ourselves to Jesus, our Savior, following him to serve all of your children.

Silence is Kept

Assurance of Pardon

Have you not been listening? Have you not heard? God never tires out, nor is there is an expiration date on God's forgiveness. God is ever with us, healing us with mercy, and strengthening us for service. If God numbers the stars, surely our names are known by the One who loves us and offers us grace. This is indeed good news for all! Thanks be to God. Amen.

Response

Glory to God

Glory to God,
Whose goodness shines on me,
And to the Son,
Whose grace has pardoned me,

And to the Spirit
Whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning
Is now and ever shall be. Amen.

World without end,
Without end. Amen.
World without end,
Without end. Amen.

World without end,

Without end. Amen.
As it was in the beginning
Is now and ever shall be. Amen.

Sharing the Peace of Christ

Response

Peace Song

Peace I leave with you my friends
Shalom my peace in all you do
Peace I leave with you my friends
I give to you so you can give to others too.

God's Word is Proclaimed

Children's Time

Scripture Mark 1:29-39

Sermon Raised Up

Responding to God's Word

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader: May God be with you.

People: May God be also with you.

Leader: People of God, open your hearts.

People: We open our hearts to God and to each other.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Living God.

People: With joy and praise, we offer our thanks to the One who offers abundant life.

Leader: In the morning, Awakening God, you took creation and flung it to the far corners of chaos, naming the stars twinkling in the night, shaping deserted places for prayers, feeding all the creatures in the fields.

You longed to walk with those created in your image, so we would not weary, but we listened to the boasting of death, as it proclaimed sin's opportunities. You sent the prophets, who cried out, 'haven't you been listening; don't you realize what God is

trying to do for you?’ but we continued to delight in all which opposed you. So, having created all things, you became the one thing we needed, our Savior. With those so weary that cannot take another step, with those revived by your grace and hope, we lift our praises to you now and forever:

People: Holy, holy, holy are you, God of all knowledge. All creation sings glad praises to

you. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the One who came for our sake.

Hosanna in the highest!

Leader: Holy are you, Star Namer, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son. He became weak, so the power of the world would be shattered; he became poor, so we might be filled with the riches of your grace; he went to that deserted place we call the grave, so death might be knocked off its pedestal, as you breathed new life into his precious spirit. As we search for him in our time, as we would proclaim the gospel, may we find that mystery we call faith:

People: Christ died, not boasting in himself; Christ was raised, the gospel lived out in him; Christ will come to take us by the hand, giving us strength.

Leader: Here is that Bread, which though broken, can strengthen the powerless; here is that Cup, which though emptied, can fill the weary with hope. Pour out your Spirit not only on these gifts, but upon your children gathered around the Table. We come, bone-tired, so make us bone of your bone, and flesh of your flesh. We can barely take another step, so empower us to walk beside the lonely and the homeless. We are so fatigued by our despair, feed us with your hope and joy, so we may proclaim your kingdom to everyone we meet. And when the day comes to gather with all your children around the Feast of the Lamb, we will join hands and dance around the Table, singing your praise forever and ever: God our Creator, Christ our Servant, Spirit of Newness, God in Community, Holy in One.

Amen.

Words of Institution

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Prayer after the Supper

Offering

If you are able, please continue to send in your offering and pledge. If you are enrolled in electronic funds transfer, there is no need to do anything different. If you would like to give online using Paypal, click this link: bit.ly/FPCsterling

Prayer of Dedication

You lift us to our feet so we can walk with you, Loving God, and you fill us with your gifts so we may pour them out for those around us. Take what we offer and use them in that kingdom work which strengthens the weary, feeds the hungry, and gives hope to the despairing.

Amen.

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer (Unison)

Blessing for Scouts and Leaders

Good and gracious God, we ask you to send your Spirit of Wisdom upon these young people who serve you through their work in the community and the world, promising to help others whenever and wherever they can. Bless their families, and bless their leaders, and guide them in wisdom, love, and courage. Safeguard them always. Strengthened by your blessing, may they always be thankful to you - for food, for raiment, for life, for opportunities, for friendship and fellowship. May they be ever reverent, people of honor, willing to do their best for You, and for others. Let them *be prepared to do a good turn daily* and uphold the Scout Law at all times. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

God's People are Sent

Closing Song

Rock of Ages

There is no rock,

There is no god, like our God,

No other name

worthy of all our praise.

The Rock of Salvation

that cannot be moved

He's proven Himself

to be faithful and true.

There is no rock,

there is no god like ours.

Rock of Ages,

Jesus is the Rock

(repeat 2x)

There is no rock,
there is no god like ours.

There is no rock,
There is no god, like our God,
No other name
worthy of all our praise.

The Rock of Salvation
that cannot be moved
He's proven Himself
to be faithful and true.

There is no rock,
there is no god like ours.

Rock of Ages,
Jesus is the Rock
(repeat 2x)

There is no rock,
there is no god like ours.
(repeat 2x)

Benediction

Leader:....and let all God's people say...

People: Alleluia! Amen!