



"You don't know what you are asking," Jesus said. "Can you drink the cup I drink or be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with?"

~ Mark 10:38 (NRSV)



"Christ Speaking with the Disciples," by Georg Pencz (1534-35)

Gathering as the Body of Christ.

CENTERING SONG

“ALPHA AND OMEGA”

ERASMUS MUTANBIRA

♩ = 88

You are Al-pha and O-me - ga, we wor-ship you, our
 Lord, you are wor-thy to be praised. You are Al-pha
 and O-me - ga, we wor-ship you, our Lord, you are wor-thy to be
 praised. We give you all the glo-ry, we wor-ship you, our
 Lord, you are wor-thy to be praised. We give you all the
 glo-ry, we wor-ship you, our Lord, you are
 wor-thy to be praised.

Words and Music by Erasmus Mutanbira

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GREETING

PRESIDER

The greatest among you taught you to serve,
to seek justice for those without voices or power.

To see, to welcome, to visit.

Through Jesus we recognize the neighbor in
our midst and work to meet their needs.

To clothe, to feed, to give.

May we celebrate together in this body of faith.

Amen.

*OPENING HYMN

“GATHER Us In”

VERSES 1 & 2



1. Here in this place, new light is stream-ing, now is the
2. We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the
3. Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will
4. Not in the dark of build-ings con-fin - ing, not in some



1. dark - ness, van - ished a - way, See, in this space, our
2. old who yearn for your face, We have been sung through-
3. take the bread of new birth, Here you shall call your
4. heav - en, light years a - way, but here in this place, the



1. fears and our dream-ings, brought here to you in the light of this
2. out all of his - t'ry, called to be light to the whole hu - man
3. sons and your daugh-ters, call us a - new to be salt for the
4. new light is shin - ing, now is the King-dom now is the



1. day. Gath - er us in the lost and for - sa - ken, Gath - er us
2. race. Gath - er us in the rich and the haugh - ty, Gath - er us
3. earth. Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion, Give us to
4. day. Gath - er us in and hold us for - ev - er, Gath - er us



1. in the blind and the lame; Call to us now, and we shall a -
2. in the proud and the strong; Give us a heart so meek and so
3. eat the bread that is you; Nour - ish us well, and teach us to
4. in and make us your own; Gath - er us in all peo - ples to -



1. wa - ken, we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
2. low - ly, give us the cour-age to en - ter the song.
3. fash - ion, lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
4. geth - er, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

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*CONFESSION & WORDS OF ASSURANCE

[All are invited to turn toward the Baptismal Font.]

S. Minister The baptismal font reminds us of God's promise of cleansing and forgiveness. In that confidence, let us lift our voices in a prayer of confession.

Like the disciples, we sometimes seek our own gain at the expense of others. Too often, we are preoccupied with our own rank and status; we wonder how we measure up and judge others in the process. We want our faith to be deep and unshakeable, but we struggle to trust. We put limits around grace and fail to love as freely and whole-heartedly as we'd like.

S. Minister Let us bring before God the prayers of our hearts in a moment of silence.

Presider Hear the Good News: God calls to us with a tender voice and arms outstretched. Love is reaching out for you!

Love is reaching out for you!

We are not beyond where God's love extends.

Love makes all things new.

Alleluia! Amen.

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

STUDENT MINISTER

You are invited to pass the peace to each other in a non-contact way that's comfortable to you and your neighbor.

Peace be with you!

And also with you!

Let us share this peace with one another.

Service of the Word

POEM

“WHEN GIVING IS ALL WE HAVE”

ALBERTO RÍOS

One river gives its journey to the next.

We give because someone gave to us.
We give because nobody gave to us.
We give because giving has changed us.
We give because giving could have changed us.
We have been better for it,
We have been wounded by it—

Giving has many faces: It is loud and quiet,
Big, though small, diamond in wood-nails.
Its story is old, the plot worn and the pages too,
But we read this book, anyway, over and again:

Giving is, first and every time, hand to hand,
Mine to yours, yours to mine.
You gave me blue and I gave you yellow.

Together we are simple green. You gave me
What you did not have, and I gave you
What I had to give—together, we made
Something greater from the difference.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

STUDENT MINISTER

God who inspires,
may the reading of the word
be full of your spirit.
And may the hearing of the word
dance in our ears,
stir in our hearts,
and draw us closer to you.
Amen.

READER A reading from the Gospel according to Mark, chapter 10, verses 35 through 45.

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, “Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.” And he said to them, “What is it you want me to do for you?” And they said to him, “Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.”

S. MINISTER But Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?” They replied, “We are able.” Then Jesus said to them, “The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.”

READER When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. So Jesus called them and said to them, “You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them.

S. MINISTER But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.”

READER Hear what God is saying to the people. **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

DR. LEE BARRETT

S. Minister Spirit of Life and Love, we live in a fragmented world
that tempts us to despair.

**We would put it back together, piece by piece if it were ours to choose
But sometimes the fragments are enough.
In a world of cruelty,
there is still power in every act of kindness
In a time of doubt,
there is still power in every act of hope.**

In an age of division,
there is still power in every act of unity

**May we remember that sometimes the fragments of meaning we make
are just the right size to hold in our hand. Amen.**

Service of the Table

OFFERTORY SONG

“GATHER US IN”

VERSES 3 & 4

***THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

Presider The Lord is here.

God’s Spirit is with us.

S. Minister Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to offer thanks and praise.

S. Minister It is our duty and our joy
to give you thanks and praise, O God,
creator and sustainer of the universe.

We give you thanks
for sun and sea and sky, for bush and birds,
for phases of the moon, for stars at night,
and planets in their courses.
All you make is very good.
For the universe we praise you
we worship and adore you.

Presider We give you thanks
for our creation and our calling,
for friendship and community,
for love and laughter,
tears and pain of growth.
For your gift of life we praise you
we worship and adore you.

S. Minister We give you thanks with those who went before us,
with saints and martyrs,
evangelists and prophets.

Presider With all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
from every culture, land and tongue,
we praise you, giving voice to every creature,
as we join the never ending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of 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.**

S. Minister Blessed are you, most Holy, in Jesus Christ,
who came among us as a servant and a friend
to reconcile us to yourself.
We thank you for that life of love,
the good news of your reign,
and the promise of a banquet
where all your children shall be free.

For your gift of Christ we praise you
we worship and adore you.

Presider

To you indeed be glory, almighty God,
because on the night before he died,
your Son, Jesus Christ, took bread;
when he had given you thanks,
he broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said:
Take, eat, this is my body
which is given for you;
do this to remember me.

After supper he took the cup;
when he had given you thanks,
he gave it to them and said:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood
poured out for you;
do this as often as you drink it
to remember me.

For new life in Christ we praise you
we worship and adore you.
Therefore, loving God,
recalling now Christ's death and resurrection,
we ask you to accept this our sacrifice of praise.
Send your Holy Spirit upon us
and our celebration,
that we may be fed with the body and blood of your Son
and be filled with your life and goodness.

Strengthen us to do your work,
and to be your body in the world.
Unite us in Christ
and give us your peace,
Amen.

If you wish to partake there are COVID-related options printed in your bulletin. If you are unable to come forward, please signal the ministers and we will come to you at your seat.

Those who prefer not to partake in Communion and wish to receive an ecumenical prayer of blessing, we invite you to meet the preacher at the baptismal font.

Whoever you are and wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here at this table where Christ is the host.

For anyone for whom kneeling is part of your tradition, there are folding kneelers behind most chairs.

COMMUNION SONG

"LET US BREAK BREAD TOGETHER"

NCH 330

Going Forth as the Body of Christ

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

PRESIDER

For the peace of Christ we praise you
we worship and adore you.

Through Christ our Redeemer,
 in the power of the Spirit,
 we worship you, O God,
 in songs of everlasting praise.

**Blessing, honor and glory be yours,
 here and everywhere,
 now and forever. Amen.**

***BENEDICTION**

SENDING & POSTLUDE

Listen to God; Bridge the chasm.

*You are welcome to keep your bulletin, but if you do not wish to keep it please
place it on the table at the entrance to the chapel as you leave.*

Cover Art: Pencz, Georg. Christ Speaking With the Disciples, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=56411> [retrieved June 14, 2021]. Original source: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Christ_Speaking_to_the_Disciples,_from_The_Story_of_Christ_MET_DP855491.jpg.

Call to Worship: Nancy C. Townley, an ordained elder in the UMC, <https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/4558/worship-connection-april-2-2017>.

Prayers of the Community: Friedman, Lisa. Reading No. 99. In *Lifting Our Voices: Readings in the Living Tradition*, 33. Boston, MA: Unitarian Universalist Association, 2015.

Poem: "When Giving Is All We Have," written by Alberto Rios. <https://poets.org/poem/when-giving-all-we-have>

Communion Liturgy: This text is authorised for use in the Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia as it is consistent with A Form for Ordering the Eucharist (NZPB p.511-514).

***The worship planning team creates all other parts of the liturgy except where noted.**

LANCASTER THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY WORSHIP TEAM

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THE WORSHIP TEAM SEEKS:

*To serve the universal church of our Creator.
To minister to the unique and diverse needs of the seminary community.
To foster an expansive culture of worship that values difference and challenges the normative.*