

*St. John's (Winona)*  
**MORNING LITURGY**  
*September 16, 2020*

The Acknowledgement

*Gathering Song* : Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,  
God of glory, Lord of love;  
hearts unfold like flowers before thee,  
opening to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;  
drive the dark of doubt away;  
giver of immortal gladness,  
fill us with the light of day.

All thy works with joy surround thee,  
earth and heaven reflect thy rays,  
stars and angels sing around thee,  
center of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain,  
flowery meadow, flashing sea,  
chanting bird and flowing fountain  
call us to rejoice in thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving,  
ever blessing, ever blest,  
well-spring of the joy of living,  
ocean depth of happy rest!  
Thou our Father and our Mother,  
all who live in love are thine;

teach us how to love each other,  
lift us to the joy divine.

*Opening Responses*

Leader : Thanks be to you, O God  
that we have risen to this day,  
ALL : TO THE RISING OF THIS LIFE ITSELF !

Leader: Be the purpose of God  
between us and each purpose,  
ALL : THE HAND OF GOD  
BETWEEN US AND EACH HAND !

Leader : The pain of Christ  
between us and each pain,  
ALL : THE LOVE OF CHRIST  
BETWEEN US AND EACH LOVE !

Leader : O God, who brought us  
to the light of this new day,  
ALL : BRING US TO THE GUIDING LIGHT  
OF ETERNITY !!

*Song Of Praise : Jesus Loves Me*

Jesus loves me, this I know,  
for the Bible tells me so.  
Little ones to him belong;  
they are weak, but he is strong.

Refrain:

Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me he who died  
heaven's gate to open wide.  
He will wash away my sin,  
let his little child come in. [Refrain]

Jesus loves me, this I know,  
as he loved so long ago,  
taking children on his knee,  
saying, "Let them come to me." [Refrain]

*Prayer*

Leader : God of life, do not darken your light to us,  
God of life, do not limit your joy in us,  
God of life, do not shut your door to us,  
God of life, do not refuse us your mercy,

ALL : LORD, DO NOT REFUSE US YOUR MERCY.

Leader : Let us pray ....

O God of life, eternity cannot hold you,  
nor can our little words catch the magnificence of your kindness.  
Yet in the space of our small hearts

and in silence  
you can come close and repair us ...

*(silence)*

O God of life,  
grant us your forgiveness,

ALL : FOR OUR CARELESS THOUGHTS,  
FOR OUR THOUGHTLESS DEEDS,  
FOR OUR EMPTY SPEECH  
AND THE WORDS WITH WHICH  
WE WOUNDED.

*(silence)*

O God of life,  
grant us your forgiveness,

ALL : FOR OUR FALSE DESIRES,  
FOR OUR HATEFUL ACTIONS,  
FOR OUR WASTEFULNESS  
AND FOR ALL WE LEFT UNTENDED

*(silence)*

Leader : O loving Christ,  
hanged on a tree  
yet risen in the morning,  
scatter the sin from our souls

as the mist from the hills;  
begin what we do,  
inform what we say,  
redeem who we are.

ALL : IN YOU WE PLACE OUR HOPE,  
OUR GREAT HOPE, OUR LIVING HOPE,  
THIS DAY AND EVERMORE.

AMEN

### The Word of God :

Reader : Listen for the Word which God has spoken;

ALL : SPEAK, LORD, TO OUR SPEAKING  
SPEAK, LORD, TO OUR LISTENING,  
SPEAK, LORD, TO OUR SOULS'  
DEEP UNDERSTANDING.

Reader : *Matthew 28:16-20*

**Reflection :** The Reverend Rob Towler

### Affirmation :

Leader: We believe, O God of all gods,  
that you are the eternal maker of life:  
we believe, O God of all gods,  
that you are the eternal maker of love.

ALL : WE BELIEVE,  
O LORD AND GOD OF ALL PEOPLE,  
THAT YOU ARE THE CREATOR  
OF THE HIGH HEAVENS,  
THAT YOU ARE THE CREATOR  
OF THE SKIES ABOVE,  
THAT YOU ARE THE CREATOR  
OF THE OCEANS BELOW.

Leader : We believe, O Lord and God of all people,  
that you are the one who created our souls  
and set their course,  
that you are the one who created our bodies  
from dust and from ashes,  
that you gave to our bodies their breath  
and to our souls their possession.

ALL : GOD, BLESS TO US OUR BODIES,  
GOD, BLESS TO US OUR SOULS,  
GOD, BLESS TO US OUR LIVES,  
GOD, BLESS TO US OUR BELIEF.

### **Prayer for the day**

Leader : Let us pray.

Let us pray for those who may be born today  
and bless them in Jesus' name.

(pause)

The joy of God shine from your face  
and joy to all who see you;  
the shield of God surround your head,  
and angels ever guard you.

ALL : MAY EVERY SEASON BE GOOD FOR YOU  
AND THE SON OF MARY GIVE PEACE TO YOU.

Leader : Let us pray for those who must work today  
and bless them in Jesus' name.

(pause)

God bless to you today:  
the earth beneath your feet,  
the path on which you tread,  
the work of hand and mind,  
the things which you desire.

ALL : AND WHEN THE DAY IS OVER,  
GOD BLESS TO YOU YOUR REST.

Leader : Let us pray for those who must travel today  
and bless them in Jesus' name.

(pause)

May the keeping of Christ be round you,  
and the guarding of God be with you,  
to possess you, to protect you,

from danger and from loss.

ALL : MAY THE GOSPEL OF THE GOD OF GRACE  
BLESS YOU FROM HEAD TO SOLE  
MAY THE GOSPEL OF THE KING OF HEAVEN  
BE WRAPPED AROUND YOUR BODY.

Leader : Let us pray for those who may face death today,  
And bless them in Jesus' name.

(pause)

May God provide for you,  
all that is needed  
for body, mind, and soul,  
as you face the final journey.

ALL : MAY CHRIST TAKE YOUR SOUL IN HIS ARMS,  
AND BRING YOU  
THROUGH THE BALANCING TIME  
TO THE DWELLING PLACE OF PEACE  
AND MAKE IT YOUR HOME FOREVER.

Leader : And let us pray for ourselves.

ALL : ENABLE US, GREAT GOD,  
TO PASS THIS DAY  
AS PASS THE SAINTS IN HEAVEN,  
TO KEEP THIS DAY  
AS KEEP THE PEOPLE OF HEAVEN,  
TO SPEND THIS DAY  
AS SPEND THE HOUSEHOLD OF HEAVEN,  
AND LOVE THIS DAY,



WHICH YOU HAVE PERFECTED.  
AMEN

*Closing Hymn : Alleluia, Alleluia*

*Alleluia, Alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord,  
Alleluia, alleluia, give praise to His name.*

Jesus is Lord of all the earth.  
He is the King of creation. *Refrain.*

Spread the good news o'er all the earth.  
Jesus has died and has risen. *Refrain.*

We have been crucified with Christ.  
Now we shall live forever. *Refrain.*

God has proclaimed the just reward:  
Life for all men, alleluia! *Refrain.*

Come, let us praise the living God,  
Joyfully sing to our Saviour. *Refrain.*

**The Peace**

Leader : The peace of God,  
the peace of God's people,  
the peace of Mary mild, the loving one,  
and of Christ, King of human hearts,  
God's own peace ...

ALL : BE UPON EACH THING  
OUR EYES TAKE IN,

BE UPON EACH THING  
OUR EARS TAKE IN,  
BE UPON OUR BODIES  
WHICH COME FROM EARTH,  
BE UPON OUR SOULS  
WHICH COME FRO HEAVEN,  
EVERMORE AND EVERMORE,

AMEN

Postlude :

Thank-you to all who shared in the leadership of this service:

Music Director – Nikki Shaw Huisman

Reader – Betty Sleep

Technical Coordinator – Vanessa Seuss

This service was adapted from **A Wee Worship Book** (*Wild Goose Resource Group*)