

*St. John's (Winona)*  
**MORNING LITURGY**  
*October 21, 2020*

Acknowledgement – The Reverend Rob Towler (Rector)

***Gathering Song* : All Things Bright and Beautiful**

Refrain

All things bright and beautiful,  
all creatures great and small,  
all things wise and wonderful,  
the Lord God made them all.

Each radiant flower that opens,  
each vibrant bird that sings,  
God made their glowing colours,  
God made their lively wings. [Refrain]

The cold wind in the winter,  
the pleasant summer sun,  
the ripe fruit in the garden,  
God made them every one. [Refrain]

The rocky mountain splendour,  
the loon's wild, haunting call,  
the great lakes and the prairies,  
the forest in the fall. [Refrain]

God gave us eyes to see them,  
and lips that we might tell  
how great is the Creator,  
who has made all things well. [Refrain]

*Call To Worship*

Leader : In the beginning  
                  before time, before people, before the world began,

ALL : GOD WAS

Leader: Here and now,  
                  among us, beside us,  
                  enlisting the people of the earth for the purposes of heaven,

ALL : GOD IS

Leader : In the future,  
                  when we have turned to dust and all we know has found its fulfillment,

ALL : GOD WILL BE

Leader : Not denying the world, but delighting in it,  
                  not condemning the world, but redeeming it,  
                  through Jesus Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit,

ALL : GOD WAS,  
          GOD IS,  
          GOD WILL BE .

*Song Of Praise : God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending*

God, whose giving knows no ending,  
From your rich and endless store:  
Nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom,  
Costly cross, grave's shattered door,  
Gifted by you, we turn to you,  
Off'ring up ourselves in praise;  
Thankful song shall rise forever,  
Gracious donor of our days.

Skills and time are ours for pressing  
Toward the goals of Christ, your Son:  
All at peace in health and freedom,  
Races joined, the Church made one.  
Now direct our daily labor,  
Lest we strive for self alone;  
Born with talents, make us servants  
Fit to answer at your throne.

Treasure, too, you have entrusted,  
Gain through pow'rs your grace conferred;  
Ours to use for home and kindred,  
And to spread the gospel word.  
Open wide our hands in sharing,  
As we heed Christ's ageless call,  
Healing, teaching, and reclaiming,  
Serving you by loving all.

*Prayer*

Leader : Let us pray ....

In you, gracious God,  
the widowed find a carer,  
the orphaned find a parent,  
the fearful find a friend.

In you,  
the wounded find a healer,  
the penitent find a pardoner,  
the burdened find a counsellor.

In you,  
the miserly find a beggar,  
the despondent find a laughter-maker,  
the legalists find a rule-breaker.

In you, Jesus Christ,  
we meet our maker,  
and our match.

And if some need to say, "Help me"  
and if some need to say, "Save me"  
and if some need to say, "Hold me"  
and if some need to say "Forgive me"  
then let these be said now  
in confidence  
by us ....

(silence)

O Christ,  
in whose heart is both welcome and warning,  
say to us,  
do to us,  
reveal within us  
the things that will make us whole.

And we will wait;  
and we will praise you,  
AMEN

**The Word of God :**

Reader : Hear The Word of God

ALL : OUR EARS ARE OPEN

Reader : A reading from The Gospel of Luke

*Luke 12:39-48*

Reader : This is the Gospel of our Lord

ALL : THANKS BE TO GOD

**Reflection :** The Reverend Rob Towler

**Prayers of the People :**

Leader: Let us pray for the breaking in of God's kingdom in our world today.

Lord God,  
because Jesus has taught us to trust you in all things,  
we hold to his word and share his plea:

ALL : YOUR KINGDOM COME, YOUR WILL BE DONE.

Leader: Where nations budget for war,  
while Christ says, "Put up your sword":

ALL : YOUR KINGDOM COME, YOUR WILL BE DONE.

Leader: Where countries waste food and covet fashion,  
while Christ says "I was hungry ... I was thirsty ... ":  
ALL : YOUR KINGDOM COME, YOUR WILL BE DONE.

Leader: Where powerful governments  
claim their policies are heaven blessed,  
while scripture states  
that God helps the powerless:  
ALL : YOUR KINGDOM COME, YOUR WILL BE DONE.

Leader: Where Christians seek the kingdom  
in the shape of their own church,  
as if Christ had come to build  
and not to break barriers:  
ALL : YOUR KINGDOM COME, YOUR WILL BE DONE.

Leader: Where women who speak up for their dignity  
are treated with scorn or contempt:  
ALL : YOUR KINGDOM COME, YOUR WILL BE DONE.

Leader: Where men try hard to be tough,  
because they are afraid to be tender:  
ALL : YOUR KINGDOM COME, YOUR WILL BE DONE.

Leader: Where we, obsessed with being adult,  
forget to become like children;

ALL : YOUR KINGDOM COME, YOUR WILL BE DONE.

Leader: Where our prayers falter,  
our faith weakens,  
our light grows dim;

ALL : YOUR KINGDOM COME, YOUR WILL BE DONE.

Leader: Where Jesus Christ calls us;

ALL : YOUR KINGDOM COME, YOUR WILL BE DONE.

Leader: Lord God,  
you have declared that your kingdom is among us.  
Open our ears to hear it,  
our hands to serve it,  
our hearts to hold it.  
This we pray in Jesus' name.

ALL : AMEN .

**Closing Hymn : As Those of Old Their First Fruits Brought (RU)**

As those of old their first-fruits brought  
of vineyard, flock, and field  
to God, the giver of all good,  
the source of bounteous yield,  
so we today our first-fruits bring,  
the wealth of this good land:  
of farm and market, shop and home,  
of mind and heart and hand.

A world in need now summons us  
to labour, love, and give;  
to make our life an offering  
to God that all may live.  
The church of Christ is calling us  
to make the dream come true:  
a world redeemed, by Christ-like love,  
all life in Christ made new.

With gratitude and humble trust  
we bring our best to you,  
not just to serve your cause,  
but share your love with neighbours too.  
O God, who gave yourself to us  
in Jesus Christ, your son,  
help us to give ourselves each day  
until life's work is done.

### Closing Responses

Leader : For all that God can do within us,  
for all that God can do without us,

ALL : THANKS BE TO GOD.

Leader : For all in whom Christ lived before us,  
for all in whom Christ lives beside us,

ALL : THANKS BE TO GOD.

Leader : For all the Spirit wants to bring us,



for where the Spirit wants to send us,  
ALL : THANKS BE TO GOD.

Leader : Listen,  
Christ has promised to be with us  
In the world as in our worship.

ALL : AMEN.  
WE GO SERVE HIM !

Leader : (+ blessing)

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

Music Director – Nikki Shaw Huisman

Reader –

Technical Coordinator – Vanessa Seuss

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