*St. John’s (Winona)*

**MORNING LITURGY**

*January 13, 2020*

Prelude :

Words of Welcome

Territorial Acknowledgement

***Gathering Song*** : **God of Grace and God of Glory**

God of grace and God of glory,

on thy people pour thy pow’r.

Crown thine ancient church’s story,

bring its bud to glorious flow’r.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,

for the facing of this hour,

for the facing of this hour.

Lo! The hosts of evil round us,

scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!

From the fears that long have bound us,

free our hearts to faith and praise.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,

for the livibg of these days,

for the living of these days.

***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 :*  OPEN MY EYES LORD**

***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 12:8-12*

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* : SEEK YE FIRST**

Seek ye first the kingdom of God

and God’s righteousness,

and all these things shall be added unto you,

Allelu, alleluia.

refrain

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Allelu, alleluia.

Ask and it shall be given unto you;

Seek and you shall find;

Knock and the door shall be opened unto you.

Allelu, alleluia.

refrain

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Allelu, alleluia.

**Closing Responses**

Leader : For all that God can do within us,

for all that God ca 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)

Final Words -

Postlude -

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

Music Director – Nikki Shaw Huisman

Reader – Nathan Arcari

Technical Coordinator – Vanessa Seuss

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