

A Service of Worship of God on the Occasion of Asian American Heritage Month

GATHERING

Prelude

Here I Am To Worship

+Call to Worship

Leader: It is good to be in the presence of God.

People: We have come to adore our God.

Leader: It is good to sing God's praise.

People: We have come to sing a new song to our God.

Leader: It is good to give God thanks.

People: We have come to offer our grateful thanks to our God.

Leader: It is good to recall God's faithfulness through the ages.

**People: We acknowledge God's loving-kindness to our ancestors
and our forebears.**

Leader: It is good to surrender ourselves to God's holy pleasure.

**People: We declare God's praise and celebrate God's goodness to us
and to future generations. Let us worship God.**

+Opening Hymn

"Dear Lord, Lead Me Day by Day" UMH #411

1. Dear Lord, lead me day by day
make me steadfast, wise, and strong;
happy most of all to know
that my dear Lord loves me so.

Refrain:

Praise to God, fount of love,
praise from morn till the set of sun;
praise at home, praise in church;
praise to God everywhere on earth.

2. Dear Lord, lead me day by day;
Make me follow and obey
Faithfully Your words of life,
That your love ever abide. (*Refrain*)

3. Now with confidence I sing
Joyous praises to our God,
And with upright heart I give
Tender care and sympathy. (*Refrain*)

Opening Prayer

Dear Spirit of God, who indwells us, be present here today,

We bow in your presence. We acknowledge your sovereignty. We declare your glory and might.

You have graciously lifted us up from the pit of oppression. You have mercifully rescued us from our enemies. Save us from anxious thoughts and dreams.

We bow in your presence. We humbly seek your compassionate embrace. We announce your coming to us.

You have called us to declare your kin-dom come. You have called us to be salt and light in our city. You have called us to be your joyful witnesses.

We bow in your presence. We give ourselves afresh to you. We follow you, our Lord and our God. Amen.

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Old Testament Lesson

Genesis 12:1-9

Now the LORD said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great

nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.'

So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. Abram took his wife Sarai and his brother's son Lot, and all the possessions that they had gathered, and the persons whom they had acquired in Haran; and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan. When they had come to the land of Canaan, Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. Then the LORD appeared to Abram, and said, 'To your offspring I will give this land.' So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. From there he moved on to the hill country on the east of Bethel, and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; and there he built an altar to the LORD and invoked the name of the LORD. And Abram journeyed on by stages towards the Negeb.

Hymn "Come Now, O Prince of Peace (O-So-So)" TFWS #2232

1. Come now, O Prince of peace, make us one body.
Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile your people.

2. Come now, O God of love, make us one body.
Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile your people.

3. Come now and set us free, O God, our Savior.
Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile all nations.

4. Come, Hope of unity, make us one body.
Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile all nations.

Sermon

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Gathering

May God be with you
And also with you.

Lift your hearts.
We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to the God we love.

We freely give God thanks and praise.

Faithful One, we come to your table hungry for a taste of your kingdom. In a world where evil and empire come together to hoard and exploit, we crave the fruits of your Spirit. We long for kindness. We dream of peace. We hope to be disciples of generosity – sharing and redistributing the resources you intended for the flourishing of all.

Gathering at your table, we remember the ordinary gifts of heaven among us.
Those that nurture hope when it's hard to find.
That surprise us in destruction's wake.
That bring new life from sites of death.
And sustain our labors of love across generations.

In awe and gratitude, we join together in praise of you, Source of Abundance:

Sanctus *Holy, holy, holy* TFWS #2257-b
Holy, holy, holy Lord; God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!
Blest is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!

Since the beginning, you have been building a lineage of love and liberation.
Inviting all who wish to belong.

Through the saints and prophets,
you call us to turn from the temptations of power and individualism.
To deepen our commitments to building communities of care and justice.

And to practice a more radical solidarity across identities and communities, so
that none must struggle alone.

You have shown us the way. Taken on flesh and dwelled among us.

In Jesus, we come to understand. God enfleshed as a Brown, Jewish, Palestinian man. A refugee. Born into a frowned upon familial structure, with neither security of wealth nor access to power. His life is a witness to hope that does not come from climbing ladders of power or begging for crumbs of dignity. Hope that is born in community, nurturing love, taking risks together, multiplying what we have and finding it is more than enough.

Jesus shared a meal with his companions, his community, his chosen family,
before he would be arrested.

Filled with love for them, he took bread, blessed it, broke it, gave it to his disciples and said:

The presider lifts the bread.

“This is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.”

The presider places the bread on the table.

And, in like manner, after supper,
Jesus took the cup and after giving thanks give it to them saying,

The presider lifts the cup.

“This is the cup of the new covenant [in my blood]
poured out for you and for all people
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink of it,
for the remembrance of me.”

The presider places the cup on the table.

Life’s greatest feast before us,
We excitedly proclaim:

Memorial Acclamation

Christ has Died

TFWS #2257-c

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.
Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!
Hosanna in the highest!

Gracious One, may your Spirit be poured out upon these elements. May this bread and this cup be for us a revival of hope and a renewal of courage as we encounter your presence among the ordinary gifts of life. Through the grace of your sustenance, may Christ be with us.

The presider may lift both the bread and the cup.

For all honor and glory are yours, O God,
Through Jesus Christ,
Who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit in your glorious creation
Both now and forever.

Amen.

The presider places the bread and cup on the table.

You are invited to recite the Lord’s Prayer in the words and language closest to your heart.

LORD’S PRAYER

At the conclusion of the prayer, the presider lifts the bread to break it.

+Breaking of the Bread
+Sharing the Bread and Cup

Post-Communion Prayer

God of Persistence, though you have been betrayed many times, you still do not give up on love. Evil is relentless but so, too, is your belief in us. In our ability to be transformed. To turn from dominance. To mend and repair where harm has been done. May we, too, believe in our potential for co-creating with you a future of flourishing for all life. We give thanks for this meal, a reminder of your unending grace and abiding companionship. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

+Sending Forth "Jaya Ho (Victory Hymn)" UMH #478

Refrain:

Ja-ya ho a-ho, ja-ya ho a-ho
Ja-ya ho a-ho, ja-ya ho aho
Ja-ya ja-ya ja-ya ja-ya ho
Ja-ya ja-ya ja-ya ja-ya ho.

1. Leader: We come before thee, O Great and Holy,
People: O Great and Holy.

Leader: We bow our heads to thee, Great and Holy,
People: O Great and Holy.

Leader: Low at thy feet we bow in quiet reverence,
then sing thy praises, evermore repeating

ALL: Ja-ya ja-ya ja-ya ja-ya ho
Ja-ya ja-ya ja-ya ja-ya ho (*Refrain*)

2. Leader: Te-re san-na mukh ham hain a-te.
People: Han haim a-te.

Leader: Cha ra no may hain shi-sha na-va-te
People: Shi-sha na-vat-e.

Leader: Ja-ya jaya te-ri ham hain ga-te
Ja-ya jaya te-ri ham hain ga-te.

ALL: Ja-ya ja-ya ja-ya ja-ya ho
Ja-ya ja-ya ja-ya ja-ya ho (*Refrain*)

3. Leader: Lord, let us see thee, grant us a vision!
People: Grant us a vision!

Leader: Sins and denials, dear Lord, forgive us.
People: Dear Lord, forgive us.

Leader: Take us and keep us in thy strong protection,

safe in thy refuge, we will sing thy praises:

ALL: Ja-ya ja-ya ja-ya ja-ya ho

Ja-ya ja-ya ja-ya ja-ya ho (*Refrain*)

Benediction

WORSHIP SOURCES

Call to Worship and Opening Prayer: Maria Ling, United Church of Canada

Communion liturgy: adapted from enfleshed. <http://www.enfleshed.com>

“Here I Am to Worship”

CCLI Song # 3266032 (Tim Hughes) © 2000 Thankyou Music

"Dear Lord, Lead Me Day by Day" *United Methodist Hymnal* #411

OneLicense Song #82165.

WORDS: Francisca Asuncion, 1983.

MUSIC (COTTAGE GROVE 77.77 with Refrain in C Major): Philippine folk melody; arr. by Francisca Asuncion.

© 1983 The United Methodist Publishing House.

"Come Now, O Prince of Peace (O-So-So)" *The Faith We Sing* hymnal #2232

OneLicense Song #45664.

WORDS: Geonyong Lee; English paraphrase by Marion Pope

MUSIC (GEONYONG 65.56 in G minor): Geonyong Lee.

© 1988 Geonyong Lee.

"Sanctus/Holy, holy, holy" *The Faith We Sing* hymnal #2257-b

OneLicense Song #18510.

"Memorial Acclamation" *The Faith We Sing* hymnal #2257-c

OneLicense Song #90751.

WORDS: from *The United Methodist Hymnal*. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House, admin. by The Copyright Co.

MUSIC: Mark A. Miller. © 1999 Abingdon Press, admin. by The Copyright Co.

"Jaya Ho (Victory Hymn)" *United Methodist Hymnal* #478

OneLicense Song #42502.

WORDS: Anonymous Hindi, translated by Katherine Rohrbough.

MUSIC (VICTORY 10 5.10 5.11 11 with Refrain in Bb Major): Victor Sherring, 1955.

© 1989 United Methodist Publishing House/Abingdon Press.

Built in partnership with the [Center for Asian/Asian American Ministry at Garrett](#).

