

Service of Worship
Sunday, January 19, 2014

"To what do our words and actions testify"

For reflection

1 Corinthians 1:1-9 Paul says that the "testimony of Christ has been strengthened" among the church in Corinth.

-would you say that the testimony of Christ has been strengthened in this church community? If so, what was the catalyst? What does it look like? If not, what is the stumbling block?

Take a moment to think of all the places you hear testimony: TV, online, work, church, ads, newspapers, music, nature....

Whether TV commentators or social network updates, we are increasingly bombarded with the testimony of others. How do we know what sources of information are reliable?

How do we know whose testimony to listen to?

- to what do you personally give testimony? What would your testimony sound like? Look like?

** an invitation to rise in body or spirit, as you are comfortable*

Welcome & Announcements

Lighting the Christ Candle

(light Christ candle)

L: The light in all of life!

ALL: May we be a light.

Call to Worship *(based on Psalm 40:8-10)*

L: I want to do your will, my God.

P: your instructions are deep within me.

L: I have told the good news of your righteousness in the great assembly.

P: I didn't hold anything back - as you well know, O God.

L: I didn't keep your righteousness only to myself.

P: I declared your faithfulness and salvation.

L: Come, let us worship God.

ALL; Come, let us testify to the God we praise, who watches over us, holding us in the palm of his hand.

***Opening Hymn - 87 "I am the light of the world"**

Opening Prayer

L: God, be with us --

P: in our being and in our doing.

L: God, bless us --

P: in our praying and in our singing.

L: God, speak to us --

P: in our silence and in our noise.

L: God, speak through us--

P: in our words and in our actions.

L: God, be with us --

P: in this time together and in all the days to come. Amen.

Children's Hymn - 245 "Praise the Lord" vs. 1

Time with the Children & Lord's Prayer

Hymn - 245 "Praise the Lord" vs. 2

Prayer of Confession

Silence is kept for personal prayer.

Assurance of Grace

Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Gospel: John 1:29-42

After the scripture is heard:

One: God, help us to hear your holy Word in fresh ways. Open our ears to the call of your voice. Open our eyes to the dawning of a new year, and each day a new day of possibility.

**All: Help us to know your Word and open our hearts to love and serve you.
Thanks be for this holy Word!**

Music for Meditation

Sermon - "To what do our words and actions testify"

Minute for Mission

Offering & *Offertory - 542 "We give you..."

***Prayer of Dedication**

L: All that we are, O God, and all we are called to be, we bring to this special moment of offering and hope.

**ALL: Receive these gifts and in your wisdom may they be used in caring ways.
Amen.**

Prayers of the People

***Closing Hymn - 217 "All Creatures of Our God and King" vs. 1-4**

***Sending Forth**

***Sung Benediction - "Go now in peace"**

Sources: "SpiritFUSION - Seasons of the Spirit, Epiphany 2014", Wood Lake Publishing. Richard Bott, opening prayer, from "Gathering", a UCC magazine for worship planners, Epiphany 2013.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Potluck Supper and Euchre at North Derby: Friday, January 24, 6:30 pm supper; 7:30 pm euchre. All welcome.

Sunday Jan 26 - Lunch and Annual meeting at North Derby.

Potluck & Skating - Sat Feb 8 at Keady arena. 6 pm supper; skating is 7 pm. All welcome. Bring a friend!

Welcome to the **2014 International Year of Family Farming!** The goal of the International Year of Family Farming is to reposition family farming at the centre of agricultural, environmental and social policies across the world. Family Farming is the predominant form of agriculture in both developed and developing countries. There are over 500 million family farms in the world! The International Year of Family Farming 2014 is an initiative promoted by the World Rural Forum and supported by over 360 civil society and farmers' organizations. <http://www.fao.org/family-farming-2014/home/en/>