

Service of Worship Sunday, March 2, 2014

"The Gift of Imperfection"

For reflection

"Mysticism" is rooted in the ability to experience the present and the unity of all creation. Being attentive is not easy.

-describe a time when you felt yourself living most fully in the present. Were you aware of a presence of the Holy there, too? What atmosphere or personal state allows you to be more open to experience the mystical?

A Pearl of Wisdom

There are no little things.

Little things are the hinges of the universe. -- Fanny Fern

** 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 unto others. May God's Spirit of Truth shine a light through our imperfect places that we may behold our beauty, and that of others.

Call to Worship

L: Make known to us the power of the coming Christ.

P: We are eyewitnesses to majesty.

L: Hear the voice come from heaven to announce the Beloved.

P: We are the receivers of God's glory and honour.

L: Confirm the prophetic message more fully in our presence.

P: We are attendants to this light until the day dawns and the morning star rises.

L: Let us come before God to give thanks and praise! Let us lift voice and hearts as we worship this morning!

Opening Hymn - 409 *Morning Has Broken

Opening Prayer (all)

We may not be able to climb a hill for you, O God, but we gather to worship you in this place. We may never see you transfigured in glory in our presence, but we witness your transforming power in our living. We may not have the words to explain all that you are, but we have hearts that want to worship all that you are. Amen.

Children's Hymn - *musician's choice*

Time with Children & Lord's Prayer

***Hymn - 299** *Teach Me, God to Wonder*

Prayer of Confession

Silence is kept for personal prayer.

Assurance of Grace

L: Do not fear the voice of Love calling out the Beloved, but feel the touch of Jesus and the voice of Christ saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." This is the gospel's good news!

Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9

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.

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

Music for Meditation

Sermon - *"The Gift of Imperfection"*

Minute for Mission

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

***Prayer of Dedication** (all)

Loving God, we offer these gifts that they might enhance Christ's message in our world, and call others ever closer to your fullness of life. Amen.

Prayers of the People

***Hymn - 312** *Praise with Joy the World's Creator*

***Sending Forth**

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

Sources: "SpiritFUSION - Seasons of the Spirit, Epiphany 2014", Wood Lake Publishing.

"The Gifts of Imperfection: Let go of who you think you're supposed to be and embrace who you are", Brene Brown, Hazelden Publishing, 2010.

ANNOUNCEMENTS