Saturday 9 am Prayer for April 19, 2020

Call to Worship

O Creator, let my soul rise up to meet you

**As the day rises to meet the sun.**

**Glory to God the Creator, the Son, and the Spirit, as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, forever! Amen.**

Prayer of Approach

Early in the morning I seek your presence, O God,

Not because you are ever absent from me

But because often I am absent from You

At the heart of each moment where You forever dwell.

In the rising of the sun,

In the unfolding colour and shape of the morning

Open my eyes to the mystery of this moment

That in every moment of this day

I may know Your life-giving presence.

Open my eyes to this moment

That in every moment

I may know You as the One who is always now.

**Amen**

Proclamation of the Word

*Reading of the Psalm*

Psalm 16, Page 11 in the Psalter Read as a Call and Response.

*Gospel acclamation (Alleluia)*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia (x 2)

*Reading of the Gospel*

Luke 14:12-14

*Gospel acclamation (Alleluia)*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia (x 2)

Our psalm and Gospel today harken us back into a life of normalcy where we can be in the presence of others, where we can give meals, actively give ‘hands on’ support the poor, the lame, the blind. Where we are not living in isolation from one another. The Word today may in some way seem separate from the reality of our lives, yet these Words are reminders for each of us that there are those out there that need this support. We are still needed to speak life into those around us. Please join me in singing Speak Life by Toby Mac…

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7rK6O0YtBRY>

We continue to Speak Life as we declare our Affirmation of Faith…

Affirmation of Faith – UCC Creed

**We are not alone,**

 **we live in God’s world.**

 **We believe in God:**

 **who has created and is creating,**

 **who has come in Jesus,**

 **the Word made flesh,**

 **to reconcile and make new,**

 **who works in us and others**

 **by the Spirit.**

**We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the Church:**

 **to celebrate God’s presence,**

 **to live with respect in Creation,**

 **to love and serve others,**

 **to seek justice and resist evil,**

 **to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,**

 **our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,**

 **God is with us.**

**We are not alone.**

 **Thanks be to God.**

Prayers of the People

God of the captive, God of the free, fill our voices with life today. Life that proclaims hope, joy, and justice for all of creation. Let those feeling trapped and alone during this time hear our voices as we reach out beyond ourselves sharing with others the blessings God have given!

Please share your prayers with each other!

After each offering I will say: Gracious God hear our prayers,

You are invited to respond: **And in Your Love Answer.**

And finally, God we end with the prayer taught to us by Your beloved Jesus:

**Our Father, Our Mother, who art in heaven,**

**Hallowed by thy name.**

**Thy Kingdom come.**

**Thy will be done in earth,**

**As it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our trespasses,**

**As we forgive them that trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation,**

**But deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,**

**The power, and the glory,**

**For ever and ever. Amen.**

The Blessing

May the peace of Christ go with you: wherever He may send You;

May He guide you through the wilderness: protect you through the storm;

May He bring you home rejoicing: at the wonders He has shown you;

May He bring you home rejoicing: once again into our doors.

Let us bless the Lord

**Thanks be to God!**

(Thanks to J. Philip Newell’s *Sounds of the Eternal*)