Participants:

Message: Chong

Prayer: Chong

Liturgists: Alice, Thea

Piano: Pearl

**GOING TO THE DOGS**

**WE BEGIN OUR WORSHIP**

**Welcome**

**God’s Greeting**

**All: Amen**

**Call to Worship**

One: In the prayers and the praise,

in the words and the wonder:

**All: we are given enough joy to live each day.**

One: In the justice for the oppressed,

in the unexpected generosity for the lost:

**All: we are given enough compassion**

**to use in service each day.**

One: In the promises made to all,

in the mercy offered to each:

**All: we are given enough grace to share each day.**

One: What joy we feel when we are called together to celebrate God’s love.

**All: Let us rejoice on this day!**

**Song: Come, All You People, LU 496: 1, 2, 3**

Come, all you people, come and praise your Maker;

come, all you people, come and praise your Maker;

come, all you people, come and praise your Maker;

come now and worship the Lord.

Come, all you people, come and praise the Savior;

come, all you people, come and praise the Savior;

come, all you people, come and praise the Savior;

come now and worship the Lord.

Come, all you people, come and praise the Spirit;

come, all you people, come and praise the Spirit;

come, all you people, come and praise the Spirit;

come now and worship the Lord.

*Text: Alexander Gondo, 20th c. Zimbabwean; st. 1, English tr. by I-to Loh, b.1936, © 1986, World Council of Churches, sts. 2, 3 from With One Voice, © 1995, Augsburg Fortress;*

*Tune: Alexander Gondo, b.1936; arr. by John L. Bell, b.1949, © 1994, Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc. Reprinted under OneLicense # A-734795*

**Prayer of the Day: With Open Arms**

With open arms you welcome all who call on your name—

who acknowledge you as Lord, and look to you in faith.

No one stands outside the circle of your mercy and love.

And so we come to offer you our worship—

to declare that you are our God,

and that we are your people.

Through the presence of your Holy Spirit

open our eyes to see you here;

open our minds to receive your truth,

and our mouths to speak and sing your praise.

For you alone are God—

worthy of all praise and worship,

now and to the end of time. Amen

**Song: There’s No God as Great, LU 275**

There’s no god as great as you, O Lord,

O Lord, my God.

There’s no god as great as you, O Lord,

O Lord, my God.

There’s no god who works the mighty wonders,

all the wonders that you do.

There’s no god who works the mighty wonders,

all the wonders that you do.

Not by our weapons, nor by our power,

but by your Spirit we are led.

Not by our weapons, nor by our power,

but by your Spirit we are led.

The Holy Spirit will move the church,

the Holy Spirit will move the church,

the Holy Spirit will move the church,

for by your Spirit we are led.

*Words and music: Spanish Traditional; tr. Psalter Hymnal 1987,*

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**WE CONFESS OUR FAILURES AND ARE FORGIVEN**

**Prayer of Confession**

Lord, Jesus Christ

who reached across the ethnic boundaries

between Samaritan, Roman and Jew

who offered fresh sight to the blind and freedom to captives,

help us to break down the barriers in our community,

enable us to see the reality of racism and bigotry,

and free us to challenge and uproot it

from ourselves, our society and our world.

Help us to hear the calls of the oppressed and the poor.

Forgive us for living in ways that put our wants

above the needs of others, for our blindness in not seeing what is happening in the world around us. Help us, Lord. Amen

*~ adapted from prayers by John Bucki and Rev. Mindi*

**Assurance of Pardon**

I ask you, has God rejected us?

No! By God's grace, God's gifts and God's calling are never taken back.

That Love we know as God will never let us go.

This is good news, dear friends, believe it.

Thanks be to God. We are forgiven. Amen**.**

**Song: Praise the Lord, LU 279**

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord!

All tribes and nations, all you peoples join in praising.

For how great the loving-kindness

that God in mercy showers down upon us.

And the grace of the Lord

endures forever. Alleluia,\_amen!

Yes, the grace of the Lord

endures forever. Alleluia,\_amen!

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**Prayers of the People**

**GOD SPEAKS TO US THROUGH HIS WORD**

**Scripture: Matthew 15:21-28**

**The Canaanite Woman’s Faith**

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.” But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, “Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.” He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed instantly.

**Message: Going to the Dogs**

**Prayer**

**Song of Response: Jesu, Jesu, LU 299:1, 2, 3, 4**

*Refrain*

Jesu, Jesu,

fill us with your love,

show us how to serve

the neighbors we have from you

Kneels at the feet of his friends,

silently washes their feet,

Master who acts as a slave to them.

*Refrain*

Jesu, Jesu,

fill us with your love,

show us how to serve

the neighbors we have from you

Neighbors are rich folk and poor,

neighbors are black, brown, and white,

neighbors are nearby and far away.

*Refrain*

Jesu, Jesu,

fill us with your love,

show us how to serve

the neighbors we have from you

These are the ones we should serve,

these are the ones we should love;

all these are neighbors to us and you.

*Refrain*

Jesu, Jesu,

fill us with your love,

show us how to serve

the neighbors we have from you

Loving puts us on our knees,

serving as though we are slaves:

this is the way we should live with you.

*Refrain*

Jesu, Jesu,

fill us with your love,

show us how to serve

the neighbors we have from you

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**OUR WORSHIP ENDS**

**God Blesses Us**

**All: Alleluia! Amen**

**Song: Let Justice Flow, LU 295: 1, 3**

*Refrain*

Let justice flow down, down like a river,

down to the valleys where the helpless cry.

Let righteousness flow through us forever,

lead us to the stream that will never run dry.

Flow to the mouths of the hungry;

flow to the hands of the poor.

Flow to the hearts of the orphans,

heal the wounds of war.

*Refrain*

Let justice flow down, down like a river,

down to the valleys where the helpless cry.

Let righteousness flow through us forever,

lead us to the stream that will never run dry.

Flow through the courts of our nation,

guide us in love’s decrees.

Lead us to streams of salvation;

fill our land with peace.

*Refrain*

Let justice flow down, down like a river,

down to the valleys where the helpless cry.

Let righteousness flow through us forever,

lead us to the stream that will never run dry.

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