

# WORSHIP GUIDE for SUNDAY, MAY 3<sup>rd</sup>

## Setting Your Space

We are still in the season of Easter, so you might gather signs of life to adorn your worship space – flowers or greenery in a little vase would be nice, as would light from candles, or some color (rainbow ribbon? Alleluia butterfly?). This is also the Sunday when we recognize the church's 153<sup>rd</sup> anniversary, so anything FBC-related might be fun to have nearby: a picture of you with church friends, an old bulletin, Bill Millar's anniversary book or the glass pinwheel ornament from our 150<sup>th</sup> celebration. AND it's Communion Sunday, so gather some elements that will feel nourishing to your body and your spirit, and set them nearby so we can all feast "together" when we come to that time in the service.

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## Prelude

## Welcome & Greeting One Another

### Gathering Song: *Fruit of Generations*

Setting out across the nation to lands beckoning their dreams,  
toward a valley called the Yamhill, rife with forests, fields, and streams.  
On they moved with pilgrim vision leaving what they'd known behind.  
Trusting in the sacred's leading: in one spirit intertwined.

Over mountain, across desert, new beginnings fired each heart.  
Sketchy image formed the vision of the life each one would start.  
Onward toward a land of promise, toward a future yet unknown,  
to be scattered for new harvest, to be tended as God's own.

With thanksgiving they assembled to praise God who led them here,  
and plant seed for those who follow in some distant, far-off year.  
We are fruit of generations, called as pilgrims on our way.  
Children of historic vision, may we honor them today.

Now 'tis ours to shape the future honoring the sacred's call  
Ours it is to leave familiar and set out across earth's ball.  
Comfort is not our sole calling; we are called to risk, to dare.  
We are called to be a people who serve sacred ev'rywhere.

## Gathering Prayer

### Communal Prayer *from Matthew 6*

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

## Children's Story

### Scripture: *A Litany Based on Psalm 136*

One: Thank you, God, for you are good--

**All: Your love endures forever.**

One: Thank you, God; you are above all, and in all, and with all, and through all!

**All: Your love endures forever.**

One: You inspired our ancestors to join together to sing and pray and serve  
and teach and encourage one another.

**All: Your love endures forever.**

One: You sustained them as they built a community to honor and follow you.

**All: Your love endures forever.**

One: You continue to breathe life into communities seeking  
to live out your good news.

**All: Your love endures forever.**

One: We know your presence with us today,  
as we celebrate what it is to be your church.

**All: Your love endures forever.**

One: You embrace the brokenness and the beauty of each one of us,  
and all of us together.

**All: Your love endures forever.**

One: Your story comes alive in new ways for each new day.

**All: Your love endures forever.**

One: You give us strength as we strive for justice and peace.

**All: Your love endures forever.**

One: You reveal yourself anew in the face of each one who comes among us.

**All: Your love endures forever.**

One: We know your love for us through our love for each other.

**All: Your love endures forever.**

One: May we ever find our rest and our hope in this promise—

**All: Your love endures forever!**

## Story-Sharing

### Response Song: *Gather Us In*

Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven light years away  
But here in this place the new light is shining: Now is the kingdom, now is the day  
Gather us in and hold us forever. Gather us in and make us your own.  
Gather us in, all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bones.

We are the young, our lives are a mystery. We are the old who yearn for your face.  
We have been sung throughout all of history, called to be light to the whole human race.  
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty. Gather us in, the proud and the strong.  
Give us a heart so meek and so lowly. Give us the courage to enter the song.

Here we will take the wine and the water. Here we will take the bread of new birth.  
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters - call us anew to be salt for the earth.  
Give us to drink the wine of compassion. Give us to eat the bread that is you.  
Nourish us well and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

## Communion Meditation & Invitation

### **Prayer after Communion**

O God, make of us some nourishment for these starved times,  
some food for our brothers and sisters who are hungry for gladness and hope,  
that, being bread for each other, we may all be fed and be full. Amen.

### **Closing Words**

#### **Going Forth Song: *Draw the Circle Wide***

Draw the circle, draw the circle wide. Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.

No one stands alone; we'll stand side by side. Draw the circle, draw the circle wide. (2x)

Draw the circle wide, draw it wider still. Let this be our song: no one stands alone.  
Standing side by side... Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.

Draw the circle, draw the circle wide. Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.

No one stands alone; we'll stand side by side. Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.

### **Benediction**

One: ...may the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

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*To make a financial gift to FBC:*

[www.fbcmac.org/give](http://www.fbcmac.org/give)

*or mail a check to FBC, 125 SE Cows, McMinnville, OR 97128.*

*To join in congregational fellowship following this service:*

<https://zoom.us/j/92036874254?pwd=TEsrY2ZZVTlKYVlweWdMUlFvVktoQT09>

*Meeting ID: 920 3687 4254*

*Password: 725899*