

WORSHIP GUIDE for SEPTEMBER 6

SETTING YOUR SPACE

This Sunday as we gather, we'll think especially about our work... whatever we do, it's probably changed some (or a lot) in the last six months. Maybe some of that change has been helpful, or needed, or energizing; maybe some of it has been frustrating, or difficult, or scary. The scriptures have a lot to say about work – about what we do and about who we are. This Sunday, we'd invite you to bring a symbol of your work to your worship space (and if you're retired, or in-between jobs, or a kid, that doesn't get you out of this assignment – we know you still work!). It's also a Communion Sunday, so make sure you've got something to eat and drink for our feast together. We'll look forward to connecting with you soon.

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ORDER OF SERVICE

Piano Prelude - Keiko Andreas

Ukulele Prelude – The Garden Song –

Nancy McCann, Susan Chambers, Judee Kunze

Inch by inch, row by row, gonna make this garden grow
All it takes is a rake and a hoe and a piece of fertile ground
Inch by inch, row by row, someone bless these seeds I sow
Someone warm them from below till the rain comes tumbling down

Pulling weeds and picking stones, we are made of dreams and bones
Need a spot to call my own 'cause the time is close at hand
Pray for rain, sun and rain, find my way in nature's chain
Tune my body and my brain to the music of the land

Inch by inch, row by row, gonna make this garden grow
All it takes is a rake and a hoe and a piece of fertile ground
Inch by inch, row by row, someone bless these seeds I sow
Someone warm them from below till the rain comes tumbling down

Plant your rows straight and long, season them with a prayer and a song
Mother Earth will make you strong if you give her love and care

Old crow watching hungrily from his perch in yonder tree
In my garden I'm as free as that feathered thief up there

Inch by inch, row by row, gonna make this garden grow
All it takes is a rake and a hoe and a piece of fertile ground
Inch by inch, row by row, someone bless these seeds I sow,
Someone warm them from below till the rains come tumbling down
Till the rains come tumbling down

Welcome – Erika Marksbury

**Gathering Song: O, Grant Us, God, a Little Space, NC #516 –
Jesse Cromer & Worship Team**

*O grant us, God, a little space from daily tasks set free.
We meet within this holy place and find security.*

*Yet this is not the only place your presence may be found;
On daily work you shed your grace, and blessings all around.*

*Yours are the workplace, home, and mart, the wealth of sea and land;
The worlds of science and of art are fashioned by your hand.*

*Work shall be prayer, if all be wrought as you would have it done;
And prayer, by you inspired and taught, shall then with work be one.*

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 – Sean P. Williams

The OK Book, by Amy Krouse Rosenthal

Scripture: Romans 12:3-18

In light of the grace I have from God, I urge each of you not to exaggerate your own importance. Each of you must judge yourself soberly by the standard of faith God has given you. Just as each of us has one body with many members - and these members don't have the same function - so all of us, in union with Christ, form one body. And as members of that one body, we belong to each other. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophecy, use it in proportion to your faith. If your gift is ministry, use it for service. If you are a teacher, use your gift for teaching. If you are good at preaching, then preach boldly. If you give to charity, do so generously; if you are a leader, exercise your authority with care; if you help others, do so cheerfully.

Your love must be sincere. Hate what is evil and cling to what is good. Love one another with the affection of siblings. Try to outdo one another in showing respect. Don't grow slack, but be fervent in spirit: the one you serve is Christ. Rejoice in hope; be patient under trial; persevere in prayer. Look on the needs of God's holy people as your own; be generous in offering hospitality. Bless your persecutors - bless and don't curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Have the same attitude toward everyone. Don't be condescending to those who aren't as well off as you; don't be conceited. Don't repay evil with evil. Be concerned with the highest ideal in the eyes of all people. Do all you can to be at peace with everyone.

Sermon – “Blessing and Belonging”

Blessing Work: A Litany for Labor Day

from Ken Sehested of the Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America

One: O Lord, we give thanks this day for work:

for work that sustains, for the work that fulfills,
for work that, however tiring, also satisfies and resonates with
your labor in creation.

All: As part of our thanks we also intercede

for those who have no work, who have too much or too little work,
who work at jobs that demean or destroy,
work that profits the few at the expense of the many.

One: Make us instruments of your peace, advocates of your justice,

channels of your blessing in the midst of our daily labors.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

One: To this end we renew our vows, begun in baptism,
to extend your redemptive purpose in
the many and varied places of our work.

In factory or field, in sheltered office or under open sky,
using technical knowledge or physical strength,
working with machines or with people or with the earth itself.

All: Together we promise...

One: to bring the full weight of our intelligence and care to our work.

All: Together we promise...

One: to make our place of work a place of safety and respect
for all with whom we labor.

All: Together we refuse...

One: to remain silent, even at the risk of our own security,
when just relations are denied.

All: Together we refuse...

One: to engage in work that harms another, that promotes injustice or violence,
that damages the earth or otherwise betrays the common good.

All: Together we affirm...

One: the rights of all to work that both fulfills and sustains,
to just wages and to contentment, to Sabbath rest and balance.

All: Together we affirm...

One: that the redeeming and transforming power of the Gospel,
with all its demands for justice and its promises of mercy, is as relevant
to the workplace as it is to the sanctuaries of faith and family.

**All: We make these promises, we speak these refusals,
we state these affirmations as offerings to you, O God,
in response to your grace, as symbols of our on-going transformation,
and in hope that one day all the world shall eat and be satisfied.**

Response Song: *Take My Gifts*, NC Hymnal #562

*Take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me,
gave me light and food and shelter, gave me life and set me free,
now because your love has touched me, I have love to give away;*

now the bread of love is rising, loaves of love to multiply!

*Take the fruit that I have gathered from the tree your Spirit sowed,
harvest of your own compassion, juice that makes the wine of God;
spiced with humor, laced with laughter--flavor of the Jesus life,
tang of risk and new adventure, taste and zest beyond belief.*

*Take whatever I can offer--gifts that I have yet to find,
skills that I am slow to sharpen, talents of the hand and mind,
things made beautiful for others in the place where I must be:
take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me.*

Communion Reflection & Liturgy

One: The invitation goes out to all who are thirsty –

All: **Come, be filled.**

One: The invitation goes out to all who are hungry –

All: **Come, be fed.**

One: The call comes to our ears, an echo from ages past –

All: **Taste and see that God is good.**

One: The song beckons us from tomorrow–

All: **There is, for all, a place at the table.**

One: And so we gather – thirsty, hungry, welcome –
and we pray that You nourish us here.

All: **May this bread of life and cup of hope**

remind us of Your love for each of us and all the world.

May they fill us with courage and compassion to love as You do. Amen.

Music During Communion - Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ, NC #347

Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a shout of joy:

bread is broken, the wine is poured, Christ is spoken and seen and heard.

Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again. Pass the Word around: loaves abound!

Christ is able to make us one, at his table he set the tone,

teaching people to live to bless, love in word and in deed express.

Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again. Pass the Word around: loaves abound!

*Jesus calls us in, sends us out, bearing fruit in a world of doubt,
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Immanuel) everywhere!*

Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again. Pass the Word around: loaves abound!

Prayer After Communion

Gracious One, having been fed at your table and nourished by one another, send us out to feed and to nourish the world you so love. Amen.

Closing Words

Going Forth Song: Circle Chant

Circle round for freedom, circle round for peace.

For all of us imprisoned, circle for release.

Circle for the planet, circle for each soul.

For the children of our children, keep the circle whole.

(Repeat)

Benediction

Postlude

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Join in Congregational Fellowship following the service by COMPUTER:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84167771310?pwd=ZXFpUFpoV2ZiYUdlQ3lvRXdiRkYyQT09>

Or by PHONE: 1-253-215-8782

Meeting ID: 841 6777 1310 Password: 297765

Make a financial gift to FBC: www.fbcmac.org/give

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

Register your Worship Attendance:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc3if4t5QHZ8GvzlOyoQBFOnSJ0evXYXaVULGGfYSgegTVQ-A/viewform>