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You have promised us the abundance of all creation, but in our greed, and in our envy, the world goes without. You have promised us the bread of life itself, but in our pride, and in our arrogance, the world goes hungry. You have promised us the waters of peace and justice, but in our violence, and in our discord, the world goes thirsty. And now we are famished, too, Lord. Have mercy on us. Forgive us, again. Transform us, at this table, and for this table, and send us from this table as servants of your righteousness, by the power of your Son, our Lord. Amen.   Silent Prayers of Confession   Words of Assurance (responsive) [PCUSA Peace and Global Witness] Leader: Even when our cups run dry, God’s grace overflows. **People: Even when our plates are empty, God’s generosity overflows.** Leader: And even when our hearts feel barren, God’s love overflows. **People: We have been called and claimed by the God of all things, and by the abundance of God’s grace, and by the power of God’s love, our sins have been forgiven. Thanks be to God!**   The Peace Leader: The peace of Christ be with you! **People: And also with you!** (You may greet those around you)   The Proclamation of the Word   Prayer of Illumination  (Luke 17:5–10) Almighty God, give us ears to hear your story in these words of Scripture; give us eyes to see your story in the faces of those that surround us; and give us faith enough, that by your grace, we might serve you until the end of our days. Amen.   Scripture Lesson Genesis 7:17-8:22 **17**The flood continued forty days on the earth; and the waters increased, and bore up the ark, and it rose high above the earth. **18**The waters swelled and increased greatly on the earth; and the ark floated on the face of the waters. **19**The waters swelled so mightily on the earth that all the high mountains under the whole heaven were covered; **20**the waters swelled above the mountains, covering them fifteen cubits deep. **21**And all flesh died that moved on the earth, birds, domestic animals, wild animals, all swarming creatures that swarm on the earth, and all human beings; **22**everything on dry land in whose nostrils was the breath of life died. **23**He blotted out every living thing that was on the face of the ground, human beings and animals and creeping things and birds of the air; they were blotted out from the earth. Only Noah was left, and those that were with him in the ark. **24**And the waters swelled on the earth for one hundred fifty days. The Flood Subsides **8**But God remembered Noah and all the wild animals and all the domestic animals that were with him in the ark. And God made a wind blow over the earth, and the waters subsided; **2**the fountains of the deep and the windows of the heavens were closed, the rain from the heavens was restrained, **3**and the waters gradually receded from the earth. At the end of one hundred fifty days the waters had abated; **4**and in the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month, the ark came to rest on the mountains of Ararat. **5**The waters continued to abate until the tenth month; in the tenth month, on the first day of the month, the tops of the mountains appeared. **6**At the end of forty days Noah opened the window of the ark that he had made **7**and sent out the raven; and it went to and fro until the waters were dried up from the earth. **8**Then he sent out the dove from him, to see if the waters had subsided from the face of the ground; **9**but the dove found no place to set its foot, and it returned to him to the ark, for the waters were still on the face of the whole earth. So he put out his hand and took it and brought it into the ark with him. **10**He waited another seven days, and again he sent out the dove from the ark; **11**and the dove came back to him in the evening, and there in its beak was a freshly plucked olive leaf; so Noah knew that the waters had subsided from the earth. **12**Then he waited another seven days, and sent out the dove; and it did not return to him any more. **13**In the six hundred first year, in the first month, on the first day of the month, the waters were dried up from the earth; and Noah removed the covering of the ark, and looked, and saw that the face of the ground was drying. **14**In the second month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month, the earth was dry. **15**Then God said to Noah, **16**“Go out of the ark, you and your wife, and your sons and your sons’ wives with you. **17**Bring out with you every living thing that is with you of all flesh—birds and animals and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth—so that they may abound on the earth, and be fruitful and multiply on the earth.” **18**So Noah went out with his sons and his wife and his sons’ wives. **19**And every animal, every creeping thing, and every bird, everything that moves on the earth, went out of the ark by families. God’s Promise to Noah **20**Then Noah built an altar to the Lord, and took of every clean animal and of every clean bird, and offered burnt offerings on the altar. **21**And when the Lord smelled the pleasing odor, the Lord said in his heart, “I will never again curse the ground because of humankind, for the inclination of the human heart is evil from youth; nor will I ever again destroy every living creature as I have done. **22**As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease.”  Sermon Send Down an Olive Branch   The Response to the Word  \* Hymn I Come with Joy -515                                                 The Communion of the People   Invitation to the Lord’s Table (Iona Community) Come to the table, all who seek something more, all who seek something different. Come with those who look like you, come with those who do not. Come and join the feast for all people, across the world, everywhere, who serve and love our living God.   Great Thanksgiving The Lord be with you **And also with you.** Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise...**   It is right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, loving God, creator and sustainer of all life. You planted the first fields – wheat, barley, rice, and maize – and made us in your image to care for your creation. You fed your people in the wilderness with manna from heaven, leading them to a land of milk and honey. When human greed trampled the poor you spoke through the prophets, calling us to worship you with justice and peace. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent Jesus Christ, the living bread, to lift up the oppressed and lowly and fill the hungry with good things. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with choirs of angels and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name;   In Praise of God We praise you, most holy God, for Jesus Christ, your Word made flesh. He taught us to share the abundance of your love, feeding the multitude, eating with sinners and strangers, offering his own body to save us, and pouring out his life for the world. When the risen Christ appeared to his disciples, he made himself known to them in the breaking of the bread. Even now he sets the table for us, inviting all to taste and see that you are good. Accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving as a living and holy offering of ourselves, that our lives may proclaim the one crucified and risen.   In Praise of Jesus Christ. Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, and one with all who share this meal, a great multitude from every nation. Keep us faithful to Christ’s teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers, sharing our goods with one another, and giving our possessions to those who are in need, so that all people may have their daily bread, this and every day. Just as the grain, once scattered across the hills, was gathered together in this loaf of bread, gather your people from the ends of the earth, so that we may feast with you in glory in the joy of your new creation. Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory are yours, almighty God, now and forever. Amen.   Pastoral Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer  “For this I pray to God” / “For this I give thanks to God.” Congregational Response: “**Hear our prayer, O God.”**  And now, in confidence and in gratitude, we say the prayer together that Jesus Christ, our Savior and Redeemer, taught us to pray…  **Our Father,** **who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on Earth as it is in Heaven and give us this day our daily bread** **and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.** **For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**   Words of Institution On the night before Jesus met with death, Jesus came to the table with those He loved. He took bread and praised You, God of all creation. He broke the bread among His disciples and said, “Take this, all of you, and it. This is my body, given for you.” In the same way, he took a cup of wine and gave thanks to You, God of all creation. He passed the cup among His disciples and said, “Take this, all of you, and drink from it. This is the cup of the new covenant sealed in my blood for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me.”   Sharing of the Meal Remembering all that you have done in Jesus Christ, we offer our lives to you with great thanksgiving as we share this feast of love and grace.   **Prayer of Dedication** **Dear God, take us out to live as changed people because we have shared the living bread** **and cannot remain the same. Ask much of us, expect much from us, enable much by us, encourage many through us. So, Lord, may we live to your glory, both as inhabitants of the earth, and citizens of the commonwealth of Heaven. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever. Amen.**   Offertory Prayer Peace and Global Witness   Hymn May the God of Hope Go with Us (x2)– 765   Charge and Benediction Leader: As we join together at the table, **People: We join together in peace.** Leader: We listen closely to the Scriptures, **People: We witness to the Word** Leader: That we might be physical embodiments, **People: Of the God of Peace, here on Earth.** | | |