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Forgive us for when we have thought our way was the only way, condemning others, not forging peace. Renew us and restore us to be a people that are humble, that are always seeking anew Your voice in this world, and lead us in ways that build up and move towards Your Kingdom on Earth. Amen.**    Silent Prayers of Confession   Words of Assurance (responsive) Leader: God’s great love does not disappoint, for from age to age God’s faithfulness remains. **People: We give thanks for the mercy and grace of God, who forgives our sins. Praise be to God! Alleluia, amen!**     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  God of power and grace, fill us with the wisdom of your Word and the understanding of your Spirit so that we may be your church: a people with dreams and visions at work in all the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.   Scripture Lesson Isaiah 2:1-4 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)  The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. **2**In days to come the mountain of the Lord’s house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it.**3**Many peoples shall come and say, “Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.” For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. **4**He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.   Time with Young People    Sermon **The Weaponization of the Word**   The Response to the Word   \* Hymn I Come with Joy – GtG #515   Installation of Elders   Clerk of Session Today, the Session installs to active service those who have been previously ordained: Elizabeth Meirowitz, Beth Oates, and Diana Steppling   Moderator Diana, Beth, and Elizabeth, in baptism, you were claimed by the love of God, clothed in the grace of Jesus Christ, and anointed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit to share Christ’s mission in the world.   Now you are called again by God through the voice of the church for service and ministry in Jesus’ name.   In accordance with the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (USA), we ask you to show your commitment to this calling by responding to these questions:   Do you trust in the Lord Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one Creator, Redeemer, Spirit? **I do.**   Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God’s Word to you? **I do.**   Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God? **I do and I will.**   Will you fulfil your ministry in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our confessions? **I will.**   Will you be governed by our church’s polity, and will you abide by its disciple? Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God’s Word and Spirit? **I will.**   Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church? **I do.**   Will you pray for and seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love? **I will.**   Will you be a faithful ruling elder, watching over the people, providing for their worship, nurture, and service? Will you share in government and discipline, serving in the councils of the church; and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ? **I will**   Clerk of Session: Do we, the members of the church, accept Diana, Elizabeth, and Beth as ruling elders, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ? **We do.**   Do we agree to pray for them, to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church? **We do.**   Moderator Gracious God, we give you thanks for your servants Beth, Diana, and Elizabeth as they continue in the ministry to which you have called them. Help them to rely on the gifts of your Spirit and to follow Christ faithfully in this calling.   Elizabeth, Diana, and Beth, you are active ruling elders, ordained to ministries of service and governance in the church of Jesus Christ and for this congregation.   Welcome/Thanksgiving   The Communion of the People   Invitation to the Lord’s Table (Iona Community) Gathered around a table is where Jesus so often met people – Matthew and Zacchaeus, Mary and Martha, Peter and Lazarus – gathered round a table where he could see people face to face, listen to their stories, share their laughter. And here we are gathered round a table, lovingly prepared by human hands in the divine order of grace. Come all you who hunger and thirst for a deeper life, for a stronger faith, for a better world. Here is the bread of life. Feed on it with gratitude. Here is the cup of salvation. Drink from it and believe. Here Jesus offers a taste of eternity, for all his holy guests. So accept his invitation and feel welcome at this table. Come. Jesus Christ promises to tend and nurture all who meet him here.   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...**   We praise you, dear God, with hearts lifted high, for you bring forth bread rom the earth and fruit of the vine. In the beginning you watered the earth that humans among all creatures might have food and drink. You gave to your servant Sarah bread to strengthen her family on their journey, and wine to make them glad. You called Moses and his people out of bondage and refreshed them with manna and quail in the wilderness. You gave Mary, Joseph, and Jesus their daily bread to share. Even when we turn from your way and squander all the goodness that should be for your purposes, still you welcome us home and prepare a feast for us. 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   You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. He took upon himself the weight of our sin and carried the burden of our guilt. He shared our life in every way and though tempted, was sinless to the end. Baptized as your own, he went willingly to his death and by your power was raised to new life. In his dying and rising, you gave birth to your church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. Remembering all your mighty and merciful acts, we take this bread and this wine from the gifts you have given us, and celebrate with joy the redemption won for us in Jesus Christ. 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   Pastoral Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer [Invite Youth Up] “For this I pray to God” / “For this I give thanks to God.” Congregational Response: “**Hear our prayer, O God.”**   Generous God, you are the bread of life, O God, and we give you thanks. You create all things good, and you nourish your creation with tender gifts. Thank you for all the ways that you breathe life into our lives. We hear your words, O Bread of Life, and yet we are hungry. We are hungry for peace: For an end to the violence in our neighborhoods and in our world. For people who hear gunshots in the night and bombings in the day, we are hungry for peace, O God.   We are hungry for justice: for an end to the oppression in our nation and in our world. For people who suffer because of racism, sexism, poverty, and the fear of the other, we are hungry for justice, O God. We hear your words, O Cup of Blessing, and yet we are thirsty. We are thirsty for righteousness: we are thirsty to know your truth. We are thirsty to feel your presence. We are thirsty for your Spirit to quench our parched souls. We are thirsty for righteousness, O God. We pray for those in our community who thirst this day...  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   Let us come to the table, to eat, and drink, and to know that the Lord is good. It is He who has redeemed us and offers us this sacrifice. We join in this sacrament to remember for whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.   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   Hymn Lord, You Give the Great Commission (v. 1,3, & 5) – GtG#298   Charge and Benediction Leader: Take us from this place, **People: To live differently because of the Word.** Leader: Guide us by your Spirit, **People: To turn those things that cause harm into life.** Leader: Lead us in love, **People: To speak truth to power, to envision your Kingdom here on Earth.** | | |