



HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Eagle, ID

www.hopeeagle.org

Worship Leaders

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Adapted from a liturgy by Rev. Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

CALL TO WORSHIP

Again and again, we are called to listen. This is part of our invitation as people of faith—to not only speak, pray, and sing, but to listen. Listening is hard. From our toddler years on up, we struggle to listen, particularly when we don't know what we're listening for or we don't agree with what we're hearing. So, this evening, I invite you to join us as we embody our prayer, as we practice listening, together. Let us listen. Let us pray:

Family of faith, I invite you to close your eyes.
Rest your feet on the floor beneath you.
Release any tension you are holding—
In your jaw, your neck, your shoulders, your hands, your legs, your feet.

Take a deep breath in and slowly let it out.
The Hebrew word for breath (ruach) is the same word for Spirit.
So as you breathe, imagine that it is God who is filling up your lungs with energy and love. Trust that God is as close as your very breath.

Now I invite you to still your mind. Imagine your mind as a river.
Thoughts will drift into view; they always do.
However, instead of holding onto those thoughts, allow yourself to let them float by.

And listen.
Listen deep.
Listen far.
Listen wide.
Listen.

The sound of your breath is the sound of the Divine.
This is a holy space.

Let us worship God.

SONG “Come As You Are” by the Many

Come you who've been wounded
All you who've lost hope
Come you who are longing
for what you don't even know.

Come you hungry for justice
Aching for heaven on earth
Come you who've been tossed aside
Don't remember what you're worth

Come as you are
Come you weary
Come and lay your burdens down
Come as you are
Bring your hopes
Bring your doubts and your scars
Come as you are

Come you who have been cast out
All you who've been shamed
come you who are looking
for that mystery you can't name

Come you crying for mercy
Hoping for peace on earth
Come you carrying questions
All you who've been so hurt

Come as you are
Come you weary
Come and lay your burdens down
Come as you are
Bring your hopes
Bring your doubts and your scars
Come as you are

Oh you misfits and prophets, and you sinners and saints
Oh you broken and needy, weird and weary and faint
All who seek to simply open their eyes.
All who need to find a safe place to cry.

Come as you are
Come you weary
Come and lay your burdens down
Come as you are
Bring your hopes
Bring your doubts and your scars
Come as you are

CALL TO CONFESSION

Often the first step to change is listening.
We have to listen to those we've hurt.
We have to listen to creation as she cries.
We have to listen to the voice of the oppressed,
If we ever hope to make things right.

So today as we begin our prayer of confession,
We will start with a moment of silence—
A moment to listen.
And then we will pray together trusting that God is always listening to us,
And that God's ears listen with love.

So let us confess, silently and then together...

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Pause for silent confession.

One: Listening God,

All: **Take what is closed in us and open it.**

Take what is distracted in us and settle it.

Take what is hurting in us and hold it.

Take any and all parts of us that create distance from you.

For we are like Peter, O God.

We argue what we don't know. We fear what we cannot see.

And we almost always speak sooner than we listen.

So open us, settle us, hold us, and forgive us.

We long to hear you more clearly.

We long to know you more fully.

With hope we pray,

And with gratitude we confess.

Amen.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

One: Siblings in Christ,
We confess with gratitude because we know that God already has heard and forgiven us.
No matter what we have done or left undone, we are held in God's hand.
So rest in this good news:

All: **God invites us in.**
God meets us where we are.
God hears our prayers.
God forgives us.

One: Thanks be to God for a love like that.

SONG "Wonderfully Made" by Ellie Holcomb

It's two in the morning
And I'm still awake in my bed
And I can't shake these lies
They keep running around in my head

But what if I saw me, the way that You see me?
What if I believed it was true?
What if I traded this shame and self-hatred?
For a chance at believing You

That You knit me together
In my mother's womb
And You say that I've never been
Hidden from You
And You say that I'm wonderfully
Wonderfully made

You search me and know me
You know when I sit, when I rise
So You must know the choices I've made
And the pain that I hide

But what if I saw me, the way that You see me?
What if I believed it was true?
What if I traded, this shame and self-hatred?
For a chance at believing You

'Cause You knit me together

In my mother's womb
And You say that I've never been
Hidden from You
And You say that I'm wonderfully
Wonderfully made

And Your eyes, they have seen me
Before I was born
And You know all the good things
That You made me for
And I'm wonderfully
I'm wonderfully made

When I consider the Heavens above
Oh, what is man, that You're mindful of us
'Til You say that we're wonderfully
Wonderfully made

And You promise that You'll never
Leave me, oh Lord
Oh that You hem me in, both behind and before
And I'm wonderfully
Wonderfully made

And You knit me together
In my mother's womb
And You say that I've never been
Hidden from You
And You say that I'm wonderfully
Wonderfully made

And Your eyes, they have seen me
Before I was born
And You know all the good things
That You made me for
And I'm wonderfully
I'm wonderfully made

I'm wonderfully made
Help me believe it
Help me to see me
Just like You see me
Just like You made me
Wonderfully made.

READING

This Lent, as we consider the ways we are being called to listen to the truth of Christ in our lives, we may not find a better practice to follow than that of the ancient practice of Lectio Divina. Lectio Divina, which means, "Divine Reading," is a way of developing a closer relationship with God by reflecting prayerfully on God's word through deep listening. You will hear the following reading read four times. You will be given instruction on what to listen for before each reading, with silence to follow the reading for your own personal time of reflection. You may wish to have paper and writing utensils to better reflect on what you hear.

Luke 13:22-31

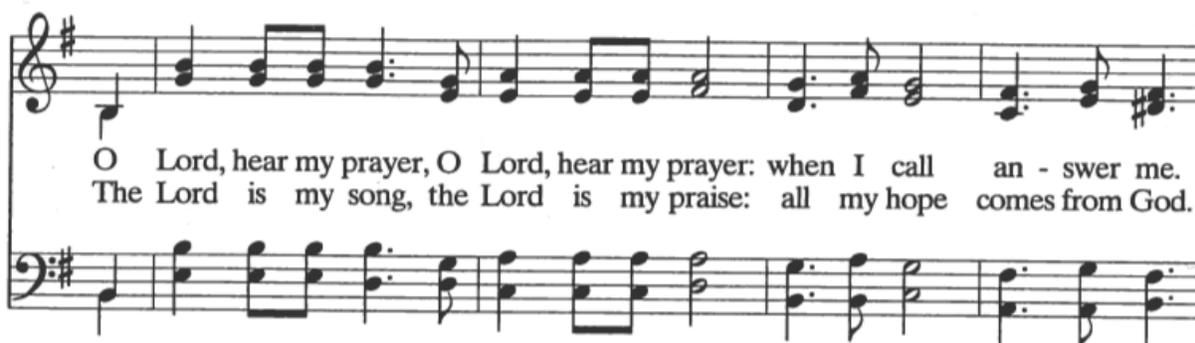
Jesus went through one town and village after another, teaching as he made his way to Jerusalem. Someone asked him, "Lord, will only a few be saved?" He said to them, "Strive to enter through the narrow door; for many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able. When once the owner of the house has got up and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying, 'Lord, open to us,' then in reply he will say to you, 'I do not know where you come from.' Then you will begin to say, 'We ate and drank with you, and you taught in our streets.' But he will say, 'I do not know where you come from; go away from me, all you evildoers!' There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and you yourselves thrown out. Then people will come from east and west, from north and south, and will eat in the kingdom of God. Indeed, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last."

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you."

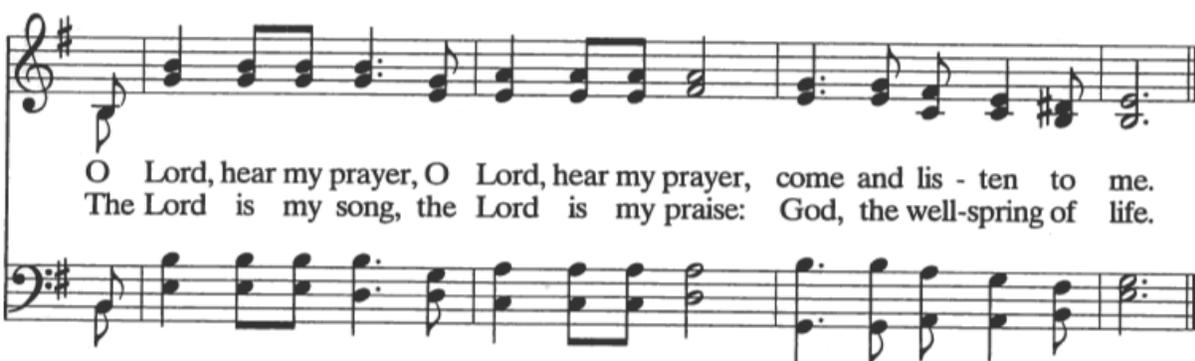
O Lord, Hear My Prayer

The Lord Is My Song

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O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer: when I call an - swer me.
The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: all my hope comes from God.



O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer, come and lis - ten to me.
The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: God, the well-spring of life.

A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Creator God,
We cannot hear the trees growing—seeds pushing up through the dirt into the sun.
And we cannot hear a single drop of rain, missing one in the many.
We cannot hear the weight of people's grief, a burden that so often is silent.
And we cannot hear when hearts are changed, but you can.
You hear it all.

So once again, we come to you with bowed heads and hopeful hearts,
Asking that you would lend us your ears.
Help us to hear as you hear so that we can live as you lived.
We are listening.
Amen.

BLESSING

One: Let us bless the Lord.
All: **Thanks be to God.**
One: The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding,
keep our hearts and our minds in Christ Jesus.
All: **Amen.**