

DOERS OF THE WORD: ROOTS OF CONFLICT

SEPTEMBER 19, 2021 WORSHIP OF WORD & SACRAMENT

The assembly is invited to speak as one where the words are in **bold print**.

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Who among you is seeking the wisdom of God?

We long to hear God's Word spoken to our hearts.

Who among you is seeking God's bright and holy truth?

We long to learn the ways of wisdom and righteousness.

Who among you is seeking a Spirit-filled life?

We long to live lives of holiness and light.

God grants God's wisdom generously to all who ask. Come near, people of God! Let us worship in wisdom and truth.¹



GATHERING SONG: WE COME TO THE HUNGRY FEAST



1 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a word of peace.
2 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a world re - leased
3 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry that the hun - ger cease,



To hun - gry hearts un - sat - is - fied the love of God is
from hun - gry folk of ev - 'ry kind, the poor in bod - y,
and know - ing, though we eat our fill, the hun - ger will stay



not de - nied. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.
poor in mind. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.
with us; still we come, we come to the hun - gry feast.

PRAYER:

Our Creator and sustainer, we confess that we are not always strong like the trees planted by the water's edge. Sometimes we are weak and indecisive. When the first big wind comes, we lean and break. We plot revenge instead of letting you fight our battles. By our silence and busyness, we let wickedness and ugliness fester and flourish. Today, Lord, forgive us when we covet and lie and when we get caught up in things that displease you. Heal us, direct our paths, and be for us the peace we so desperately crave. Amen.²

¹ <https://jesusscribbles.wordpress.com/> Reposted: <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2018/09/call-to-worship-james-3-4.html>.

² Cynthia A. Bond Hopson, *The Africana Worship Book for Year B (Discipleship Resources, 2007)*, 160.

READING: JAMES 3:13-4:3, 7-8A THE MESSAGE

¹³⁻¹⁶ Do you want to be counted wise, to build a reputation for wisdom? Here's what you do: Live well, live wisely, live humbly. It's the way you live, not the way you talk, that counts. Mean-spirited ambition isn't wisdom. Boasting that you are wise isn't wisdom. Twisting the truth to make yourselves sound wise isn't wisdom. It's the furthest thing from wisdom—it's animal cunning, devilish plotting. Whenever you're trying to look better than others or get the better of others, things fall apart and everyone ends up at the others' throats.

¹⁷⁻¹⁸ Real wisdom, God's wisdom, begins with a holy life and is characterized by getting along with others. It is gentle and reasonable, overflowing with mercy and blessings, not hot one day and cold the next, not two-faced. You can develop a healthy, robust community that lives right with God and enjoy its results *only* if you do the hard work of getting along with each other, treating each other with dignity and honor.

GET SERIOUS

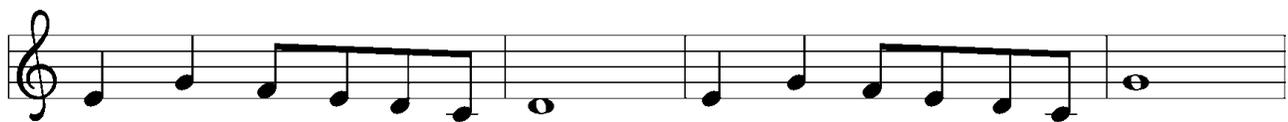
⁴ ¹⁻² Where do you think all these appalling wars and quarrels come from? Do you think they just happen? Think again. They come about because you want your own way, and fight for it deep inside yourselves. You lust for what you don't have and are willing to kill to get it. You want what isn't yours and will risk violence to get your hands on it.

²⁻³ You wouldn't think of just asking God for it, would you? And why not? Because you know you'd be asking for what you have no right to. You're spoiled children, each wanting your own way.

^{7-8a} So let God work his will in you. Yell a loud *no* to the Devil and watch him make himself scarce. Say a quiet *yes* to God and he'll be there in no time.

REFLECTION: DOING THE WORD WITH AS PEACEMAKERS

SONG: TAKE, OH TAKE ME AS I AM



Take, oh, take me as I am; sum - mon out what I shall be;



set your seal up - on my heart and live in me.

PRAYERS FOR PEACE:

This week, we'll commemorate the International Day of Peace, a day on non-violence and ceasefire. The United Nations General Assembly begins near or around this day as well. The theme is seen at right and more info is at <https://www.un.org/en/observances/international-day-peace>.

Tonight, we'll make a peace prayer flag, much like the Tibetan Buddhist one we have hanging downstairs.

On a piece of muslin, write/draw your prayer. On Tuesday, they'll be hung here at the house outdoors until the prayers fall apart and are taken by the air.



WORDS OF INSTITUTION:

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood. It is shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

A bottle of sanitizer will go around the circle.

Pastor will come to you with the bread.

You will be given a small communion cup filled with wine.

Please place the cup into the bucket after worship.

This is the table, not of the church, but of the Lord

It is made ready for those who love God and for those who want to love God more.

So come, you who have much faith and you who have little;

You who have been here often and you who have not been here long;

You who have tried to follow and you who have failed. Come, because it is the Lord who invites you.

It is God's will that those who want God should meet here.

SENDING SONG: MAKE ME A SERVANT W&P 96

♩ = 82

F Dm⁷ Gm⁷ C⁷ Gm⁷ B^b/C C⁷

Make me a ser - vant, hum - ble and meek. Lord, let me lift up

7 B^b/F F F^{2sus} F A Dm Dm/C G²/B B^bm⁶

those who are weak. And may the prayer of my heart al - ways be:

13 F/A Gm⁷ F/A Gm⁷

Make me a ser - vant, make me a ser - vant,

17 F/C C^{7sus} F²

make me a ser - vant to - day. _____

Lyrics: Make me a servant, humble and meek.
 Lord, let me lift up, those who are weak.
 And may the prayer of my heart always be:
 Make me a servant, make me a servant,
 Make me a servant today.

BLESSINGS AND SENDING

As you have been fed, go to feed the hungry.
 As you have been set free, go to set free the imprisoned.
 As you have been received – give.
 As you have heard – proclaim.
 And the blessing which you have received from the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer be always with you.³
Amen.

Go in peace. Be the Good News
Thanks be to God.

³ Written by Rev. Daniel B. Randall and posted on the United Church of Christ's Worship Ways website, <http://www.ucc.org/worship/worship-ways/>.