

MYC 2017 ALPHA WORSHIP

TUESDAY (COMMUNION)

Gathering Music:

<https://youtu.be/ehtyL9JwtoY>

Processional Music:

If you want me to - Ginny Owens

Call to Worship

People of God,
the rhythms and routine of this mountaintop place are already shaping us.
This day has been full; our hearts are nearly overflowing.
So now let us do what we were created to do: worship God.
Please remain seated and join me in our Call to Worship.

I lift my eyes up to the hills;
where does my help come from?

**My help comes from the Lord,
the one who made heaven and earth.**

He will not let your foot be moved;
he who keeps you will not slumber and will not sleep.

**The Lord is your keeper;
the Lord is your shade at your right hand.
The sun shall not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.**

**The Lord will keep you from all evil.
The Lord will keep your life.
The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in
from this time and forevermore.**

Breathing video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=INk1B8H4wmQ>

Music

Prayer of Affirmation and Praise

We come together tonight
to be with each other in community,
to be surrounded by music and movement,

to take a breath after a busy day.

**But more than anything else,
we come together tonight to be reminded of what is true.**

The voices of the world are loud,
but the Word of our God is eternal.

The world says:
You have no idea what you're doing.
You might as well give up.

**The prophets speak the Word of the Lord:
I will make a way in the wilderness;
I will make water spring up in the desert.**

The world says:
There is not enough.

**Jesus says to us:
I have come so that you would have life — life abundant.**

The world says:
Your fears and insecurities

**Jesus says to those demons:
Get out. Be gone. There is no place for you here.**

The world says:
There is no room for you, unless you are the brightest and the best,
popular and powerful, winsome and wealthy.

**Jesus says for all to hear:
Let the little children come to me.
But not only the children —
come to me, all you who are weary and carrying heavy burdens
and I will give you rest.**

The world says:
Your brokenness will always define you.

**Gathered around a table, Jesus says:
This is my body, broken for you.
I will be broken, so you don't have to be.
Take, eat, and remember.**

The world says:
You are unloveable.

**Without hesitation, God says:
I will never leave you nor forsake you.
I have called you by name and you are mine.**

O Lord, hear our prayer:
We believe; help our unbelief.

(Silent prayer)

Assurance of God's Grace and Passing of the Peace

The world says:
'Hope' is nothing more than a four letter word.

The apostle Paul says:
Hope does not disappoint us.
Thanks be to God, it never has, and it never will.
Trust that Good News, friends. Hope is here to stay.

If musicians wish to do a response, it would go here. Otherwise, proceed directly into words introducing the passing of the peace.

The world says:
Peace will never be possible.

Jesus says:
Do not let your hearts be troubled.
Peace I give to you; my peace I leave with you —
and I do not give to you as the world gives.
So do not let your hearts be troubled,
and do not let them be afraid.

Prayer for Illumination

Dear God, come to us in this word,
and help us understand what you are saying.
We need you, and we are eager to hear your voice.

Scripture: Psalm 69:1-2, 13-18

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yH5swYxpWv4>

Dear God, save me!

I'm in over my head.
Quicksand under me, swamp water over me;
I'm going down yet again.

I'm praying.
God, it's time for a break!
God, answer in love!
Answer with your sure salvation!
Rescue me from the waters.
Don't let me go under for good.
Pull me out of the clutch of the enemy;
this whirlpool is sucking me down.
Don't let the swamp be my grave.
Don't let the black hole swallow me,
its jaws clenched around me.
Now answer me, God!
Answer me because you love me.
Let me see your great face full of mercy.
Don't look the other way;
you're servant can't handle it.
I'm in trouble.
Answer right now!
Come close, God, and get me out of here.
Rescue me from this deathtrap.

Music: God be the Love

Scripture: Genesis 39:7-23

Sermon

Music:
Mighty to save - hail song

Invitation to the Table

When it all falls apart, Lord, keep me together.
When it all falls apart, Lord, meet us at this table.

That is what God has promised to do,
and God has made good on that promise time and time again.
So much so, that for generations upon generations,
people have come from east and west and north and south,
from remote towns and big city dwelling,
from classrooms and living rooms,
from poverty and affluence,

from good days and bad days,
from places of trust and places of doubt —
people have come from all over,
and gathered at this table,
because it is at this table that the bread of life and the cup of salvation are shared with us all.
It is at this table that the pieces of our lives are put back together again,
and we learn what the peace of Christ tastes like.

And remember this:
this table belongs to no one but Jesus himself.
The pews may be older than your grandma,
but the promise of this table is older than eternity.
And without question, Jesus is the one who invites you to join in.
So come to this table, each and every one of you,
where bread is broken and blessings abound.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Good and Gracious God,
It is our job but it is also our joy to praise you.
For you are the creator of all that we are and all that we know.
From before the beginning, you shaped and molded.
You colored outside the lines.
You formed the land and the sea, the sun and the moon, people and plants and animals.
You painted laughter, sculpted peace, and made a collage of love.
You took pieces of every dream you had for us
and carefully placed them together.

That goodness is in everything you create and everything you do.
Sometimes, with all our best intentions, we miss it.
Sometimes, with all our shortcomings, we distort it.
But there are times, O God, when our eyes are opened and we see you all around us.
In the arrival of a new day, the smile from a stranger, the reunion of old friends, the breaking
of bread.
Sometimes, when we listen hard enough, we can hear the morning stars sing together
and know beyond a shadow of a doubt that you are the one who laid the foundation.

And when we need a reminder, you are always there, speaking words we need to hear.

When Sarah wept with longing and frustration,
you said, "I am still here. And I am always full of surprises."

When Abraham wondered how you could ask for his son,
you said, "I am still here. And I will always provide."

When Moses and the Israelites were lost in the wilderness,

you said, "I am still here. And I will always show you the way."

When Jonah was afraid and tried to run away from you,
you said, "I am still here. And I will always give you another chance."

When Amos and Micah and Miriam and Deborah wondered if the world would ever really
change,
you said, "I am still here. And I am always doing a new thing."

And then, later, your son Jesus Christ came alongside of us
and he said, "Come and follow me. I will show you a new way of living."
But healing the sick, feeding the hungry, befriending the lonely, forgiving the sinful, and
challenging the complacent ... this way of living angered those who liked the old way better.
And so he was crucified, left to die on a cross, then buried and gone.
Mary cried, the disciples hid, and the world stood still.

But once more, you said, "I am still here. I will always be love, and I will always be life."

And you raised him from the dead, introducing us once again
to love everlasting and life eternal.

So we pray: send your Spirit upon us, O God.
Be with us now as we share this meal.
For life is hard, and we need you.
We need your guidance when we are strong.
We need your strength when we are fatigued.
We need your encouragement when we are weary.
We need your hope when we feel like giving up.
We need your peace in all things.

So send your Spirit upon us, and upon the gifts of this table,
that we might know something more of your presence.

Trusting that you are still with us, and that you will stay with us, we pray as Jesus taught:
Our Father . . .

Words of Institution (officiant choice)

Communion of the People

Music:

For Everyone Born, Prince of Peace

Prayer After Communion

Living God,
We thank you for this meal,

and for those we shared it with.
We thank you for this night,
and all the grace it still holds.
We thank you for your love,
and all the lessons it teaches us.
We thank you for your peace,
and all the ways you heal our broken pieces.
Amen.

Benediction (preacher's words)