

Peace of the Prairie A Liturgy for Here and Now

Sunday November 15th, 2026

GA Lutheran Church ~ ELCA



Bulletin Donated By:

Invocation

Grace and peace to you from the God of Shalom, who creates, claims, and calls you for here and now. **Amen.**

Gathering Song: *The Earth with Heaven's Music Rings*



Gathering Prayer

God of every time and every place, by your Spirit we have been gathered from the rhythms and rituals of daily life to remember who and whose we are. Guide our attention to the here and now, so that we take root like lilies of the field and spread our wings like birds of the air, restored by your provision and peace. **Amen.**

Litany: We Remember

The Christian faith asks us to hold many truths in tension with one another. We plant our feet on Dakota land, on layers of soil and stories and acknowledge that people and places contain multitudes.

We remember

the generous gifts of creation and God's promise of enough.

We remember

glacial melt, the birth pangs of prairie, ancestors singing, *Water is Life*!

We remember

acres sold and treaties breaking, settlers unsettling and systems taking.

We remember

the legacy and loss of bison, of nations oppressed and removed.

We remember

the isolation of immigration, homesteads far from new neighbors and old country.

We remember

Dakota people already and not yet, and resilient voices in this generation.

We remember

farmers who labor to feed the world, who know wind and weather in their bones.

We remember

the call to turn from the myth of scarcity, to interrupt patterns of harm with justice.

We remember

we belong to each other and to this land, all relations of the God who re-members.

Re-member us, O God. Amen.

Reading: Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to throw away; a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace.

While singing the refrain of the next song, you might hold your hands out with your palms up. May this ancient posture for prayer connect your brain and your body.

Centering Song: Here and Now



Gospel Reading: Matthew 6:25-34

Whether you read the scripture passage and guiding questions silently or aloud, whether you share in small groups or reflect in solitude, may this time inspire a deep awareness of God's provision.

Jesus said, "This is why I am telling you not to be troubled about getting enough to eat or drink, or what to wear. Is eating, drinking, and clothing yourself all there is? Does your life not have more meaning than this?

What is troubling you today?

Look to the winged ones who soar on the wind. Do they plant seeds and gather the harvest into a storehouse? No! But your Father from above gives them plenty to eat. Do you not know that Creator cares even more for you? Can worry add even one more step to the length of your life's journey? Why do you trouble yourself with what to wear? Have you seen how the wildflowers grow in the plains and meadows? Do you think they work hard and long to clothe themselves? No! I tell you not even the great chieftain Stands in Peace, Solomon, wearing his finest regalia was dressed as well as even one of these. If Creator covers the wild grass in the plains with such beauty, which is here today and gathered for tomorrow's fire, will Creator not take even better care of you?

What image or phrase is God using here to get your attention?

Why is your faith so small? There is no need to say what will we eat? What will we drink? What will we wear? This is what the Nations who have lost their way have given their heart to. But your Father from above knows you need these things.

What is it that God knows you need today?

If you will make Creator's good road your first aim and represent these ways, Creator will make sure you have all you need for each day. So do not worry about tomorrow's troubles. It is enough to trust Creator to give you the strength you need to face today."

How might you respond to God's invitation to be here and now?

Prayer

God of the winged ones and the wildflowers, by your living word you call us valuable and promise what we need to live abundantly. Renewed by your presence and provision, we offer our whole selves to this time and place, trusting it is enough because you say it is so. **Amen.**

Song of the Day: God of Shalom

God of Shalom

from: *Peace of the Prairie: A Liturgy for Here and Now*

Commissioned by Shalom Hill Farm, Windom, MN

Prairie Spirituality Project 2023



© 2023 Carol Meier Music (ASCAP), carolmeiermusic.com

Permission granted by composer for this song to be used freely in all settings; please list composer and commission information.

Prayers for the Prairie (*Inspired by Psalm 8*)
Let us pray for the whole creation and our place within the order of things.

O LORD, our God, your name is glorified and fills the earth!

Vast like a crown set above the heavens and near like babble from the mouths of infants, a refuge of protection to shelter and keep us in the acoustics and chorus of your truth, an anthem of liberation and life written on our hearts at the beginning of time!

O LORD, our God, your name is glorified and fills the earth!

When we behold the magnitude of your making, the cosmic labor of your love for us: the moon and stars that you have established; the wind and streams and prairie and fields; we marvel that we are so small- and still we matter so much to your delight and design!

O LORD, our God, your name is glorified and fills the earth!

You made us in your image; every neighbor, stranger, kin; called stewards of your beauty and belonging, all that lives entrusted to our good care. Let every creature that grazes and frolics, that slithers and flutters and burrows and swims be fruitful and multiply, in praise to you!

O LORD, our God, your name is glorified and fills the earth!

Receive these prayers of praise and adoration, O God. **Amen.**

Offering

Offering Song ***Give Thanks*** **Gray #170**
Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One; give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son. (Repeat)
And now let the weak say, "I am strong!" Let the poor say, "I am rich" because of what the Lord has done for us! (Repeat)
Give thanks.

Holy Communion

*Words of Institution Pg. 207

The Lord's Prayer
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

Communion Distribution (All Are Welcome to Receive Communion Here at GA Church)

Post Communion Blessing

Blessing and Dismissal

May Creator give you courage to trust tomorrow with its troubles and grant you strength enough for today. Go forth in peace. **Amen.**

Sending Song: *Enough for Today*



Mission Statement of Gustaf Adolf Lutheran Church (Adopted in 2022)

To share the Good News of God's Word and to serve the community and the world.

Matthew 22:39 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'
Matthew 28:19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

++

We celebrate weekly Holy Communion. We welcome all who believe in the Risen Christ and who find in the sacrament our Lord's real presence for the forgiveness of sins and the renewal of life. If you receive communion in your home congregation, you are invited to receive it here at G.A. Red wine and white grape juice will be offered to you in Christ's name. You may choose your preference. If you are unable to receive wheat bread, or wine, be sure that in a single element you receive the Presence and all the gifts of the sacrament.
From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted and live streamed by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #35904. CCLI# 3138595 and #21256999

All spoken liturgical texts and paraphrases written by Rev. Meta Herrick Carlson © 2023

The Earth with Heaven's Music Rings Music: KINGSFOLD, English folk tune Lyrics by Carol Meier Here and Now, Music and Lyrics by Carol Meier God of Shalom, Music and Lyrics by Carol Meier Enough for Today, Music and Lyrics by Carol Meier ©2023 Carol Meier Music (ASCAP). All rights reserved. Use with permission, please.

Scripture quotations are taken from: New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

First Nations Version: New Testament, copyright © 2021 by Rain Ministries Inc. Used by permission of InterVarsity Press, P.O. Box 1400, Downers Grove, IL 60515, USA. www.ivpress.com