



*The Fourth Sunday After the Epiphany*

**Prelude**

*Walking with the Master*

**Gathering**—There is a good word for you if you are weary. It is the Word of Love, deeper than every despair. There is a good word if you have ever felt unworthy. It is the Word of Hope, [God’s steadfast love endures forever.”] There is a good word that needs to be heard. It is the Word of Life, that raises up abundant blessings.+

**\*\*Gathering Song**

*As We Gather at Your Table, 695*

**Prayer**—Your wisdom, Holy Mystery, is as unfathomable as the deep, as alluring as the night sky. When all seems lost, call [to] us from the [winters] of our lives. Grant us the ability and the will to hear your call and bless us with the grace to embrace your promised salvation. Help us face our fears, that we might remain sure-footed on our journey of faith.~

**The Lord’s Prayer** (unison)—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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

**Exploring Together**—What do you do to get through winter days at home?

**We Hear God’s Word**—Psalm 138 (NRSVUE)

*Greg Miller*

<sup>1</sup> I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart;  
before the gods I sing your praise;

<sup>2</sup> I bow down toward your holy temple  
and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness,  
for you have exalted your name and your word  
above everything.

<sup>3</sup> On the day I called, you answered me;  
you increased my strength of soul.

<sup>4</sup> All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord,  
for they have heard the words of your mouth.

<sup>5</sup> They shall sing of the ways of the Lord,  
for great is the glory of the Lord.

<sup>6</sup> For though the Lord is high, he regards the lowly,  
but the haughty he perceives from far away.

<sup>7</sup> Though I walk in the midst of trouble,  
you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies;  
you stretch out your hand,  
and your right hand delivers me.

<sup>8</sup> The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me;  
your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever.  
Do not forsake the work of your hands.

## **Meditation**

*Rhythm and Ritual*

### **We Gather at the Table**

#### **Hymn**

*Come, Share the Lord, 696*

**Set Your Place at the Table**—For those worshipping with us at home, please use whatever you have on hand to represent the bread and the cup.

**Our Invitation**—Come freely, for this table of grace is here for all. Come confidently, for this table of love offers blessings beyond our wildest dreams. Come humbly, for this table is set by Christ, who humbled himself to both live and die in his great love for us.~

**A Prayer for Transformation**—Holy One, it is easy to succumb to weariness when our work has seemed to yield little goodness. Hope-crushing night can seem so long. Yet You call [out to us...] So we release everything to you. We pray that Your promised forgiveness will continue to be trustworthy and true. Let it raise us up for some work of abundance made possible by your grace. We pray this in the name of the one You raised to life, Jesus the Christ.  
Amen.+

**Assurance of Grace**—Friends...there is nothing in our past that matters more than what God can do, beginning now. We are forgiven by the one who has endured the depths of death and has risen to ever-new life. [You are forgiven.] This is the Good News! You can trust it with your life. Thanks be to God!+

**The Words of Institution**—We remember that on the night of betrayal and desertion, and on the eve of death, Jesus gathered the disciples for the feast of Passover. Jesus took the bread, and after giving thanks..., broke it, and give it to the disciples, saying: “This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” In the same way also the cup, after supper, saying:

“This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” Therefore we proclaim the mystery of our faith. `

**Blessing Our Meal**—Pour out your Holy Spirit on us, that we might be disciples of your love and grace. Pour out your Holy Spirit on these gifts of bread and wine, that your life and love might flow through us. Guide us in love by your Spirit, that we might be one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at the heavenly banquet. Through Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever more. Amen.~

### **We Share the Bread and the Cup**

**We Give Thanks**—Almighty God, we give you thanks for the gift of our Savior’s presence in the simplicity and splendor of this holy meal. Unite us with all who are fed by Christ’s body and blood that we may faithfully proclaim the good news of your love and that your universal church may be a rainbow of hope in an uncertain world; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen. `

### **We Respond to God’s Word with Our Giving**

**Invitation**—We rise from the table, fed and nourished, with thanksgiving in our hearts, a song on our lips, ready to bring our praise to God. Let the gifts we offer this day be signs of hope to our neighbors who know the harshness of winter days. May they represent our willing to serve God and creation. May they proclaim our trust in God’s steadfast love.

**February Benevolence**—Indiana Disaster Preparedness and Response Ministry

### **Red Cross Blood Drive**

#### **\*\*Doxology**

**We Give Thanks**—With hearts full of love, may our spirits sing your praise. As we bring our offering before you this day, bless us and our gifts, that we may bring your holy presence where it is needed most in your world. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.~

### **Hymn**

*All Creatures of Our God and King, 23*

**Benediction**—The dark and cold of winter may be long and hard at times, but even in the darkest of nights, the light of God shines. God’s faithfulness abounds.

**\*\*A Choral Benediction**

May the light of God shine on us today.  
May the light of God shine on us today.  
May it show us where to travel,  
Lead us back if we should stray.  
May the light of God shine on us today.

May the love of God live in us today.  
May the love of God live in us today.  
May the warmth we feel within us

Show in all we do and say.  
May the love of God live in us today.

May the peace of God be with us today.  
May the peace of God be with us today.  
May it guide us and protect us  
As we go our separate ways,  
May the peace of God be with us,  
May the love of God live in us,  
May the light of God shine on us today.

**Postlude**

*Fragment from An Etude*

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