

# **MEDITATION PRAYERS BEFORE WORSHIP:**

Loving God you came among us to serve and not be served. Shape us into humble servants of your kingdom and make us desire always and only your will, through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen

## PASTORAL WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY:

- *Everybody can be great, because everybody can serve.* -Martin Luther King, Jr.
- I don't know what your destiny will be, but one thing I know: The only ones among you who will really be happy are those who have sought and found how to serve. -Albert Schweitzer

## CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: A word spoken, All: A voice heard, One: A dream revealed, All: A mission received. One: God calls All: Again and again. One: God beckons us All: To follow, One: To love, All: To serve, One: To give. All: Again and again One: God invites us All: To embrace the lonely, One: To feed the hungry, All: To tell the Good News of Jesus, One: To give our lives to service.

**PRAISE SONG:** One Spirit (music at end of bulletin)

### **OUR CONFESSION:**

All: Compassionate God, your love for us is unquestionable, your grace is deeper than the ocean, your wisdom beyond measure. Yet, our response to your greatness is often shallow and hesitant. We fine-tune excuses and drum up questions. We miss your call to servanthood because we are looking for higher positions, better perks, lasting privileges. We long for recognition, for someone to say, "Thank you."

Holy God, teach us the joy of serving with glad and willing hearts. Remind us that no act of kindness is ever forgotten by you. Reassure us of your love that turns our hesitant witness into faithful discipleship. In Jesus' name. Amen.

#### CONFESSION RESPONSE: Will You Let Me Be Your Servant (vs 1, 2, 4) (music at end of bulletin)

## THE GOSPEL:

## Luke 14: 1, 7-14

As Luke tells the story of Jesus' life, this is another incident involving Jesus and a Jewish leader, a Pharisee, which provides a teaching situation through a parable about humility and also comments about the guest list of this meal to which He was invited.

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.

7 When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. <sup>8</sup>'When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; <sup>9</sup>and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, "Give this person your place", and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. <sup>10</sup>But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, "Friend, move up higher"; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. <sup>11</sup>For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.'

12 He said also to the one who had invited him, 'When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. <sup>13</sup>But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. <sup>14</sup>And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.'

## John 13:12-17

In John's story of Jesus' life, this is part of the section that is called the Upper Room Discourses in which Jesus shares teachings and the last Passover meal with His disciples before His arrest, trial, sentencing, crucifixion, and death. These words follow Jesus' washing the feet of His disciples, an act always done by a servant to all the guests at a meal.

After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, 'Do you know what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord—

and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. Very truly, I tell you, servants<sup>\*</sup> are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

#### MESSAGE: "The Church is the Place Where Everyone is a Servant" - Pastor David Schoob

MESSAGE RESPONSE: Ubuntu (music at end of bulletin)

#### THE PRAYERS

## THE LORD'S PRAYER:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread and 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.

## THE SENDING OUT:

- Leader: Now may the risen Christ be with us as we seek to follow his example: forgiving and not hating, uplifting and not tearing down, serving instead of being served and offering all we are to the glory of God the Father. In his precious name, we pray.
- All: Amen.

#### THE SENDING SONG: The Lord Now Sends Us Forth (music at end of bulletin)

## THE DISMISSAL:

Leader: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

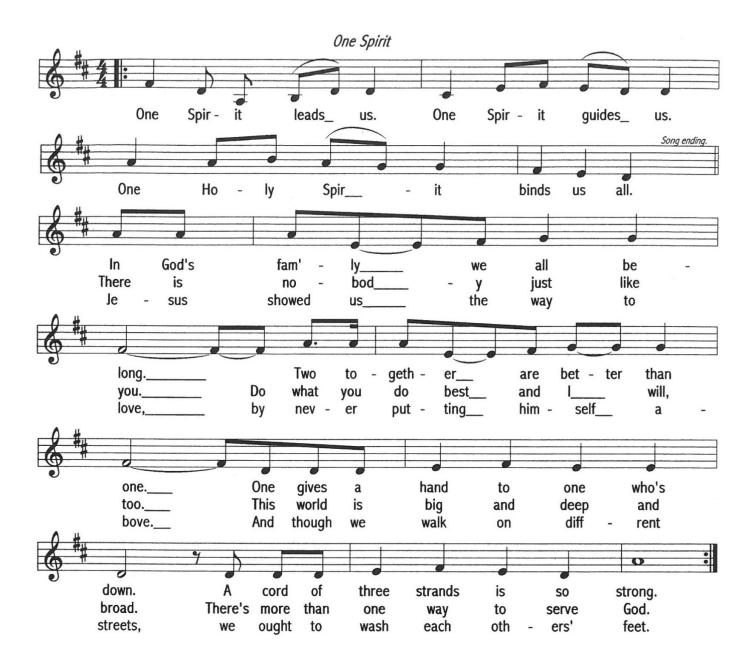
# People: Thanks be to God.

One Spirit. Words and Music: Glenn Berg Moberg. © 1985 Glenn Berg Moberg. Used with permission under CCLI License #230769. All rights reserved.

Will You Let Me Be Your Servant. Text: Richard Gillard. Music: Richard Gillard, arr. Betty Pulkingham. Text and music © 1977 Scripture in Song, admin. Integrity Music. Used with permission under CCLI License #230769. All rights reserved.

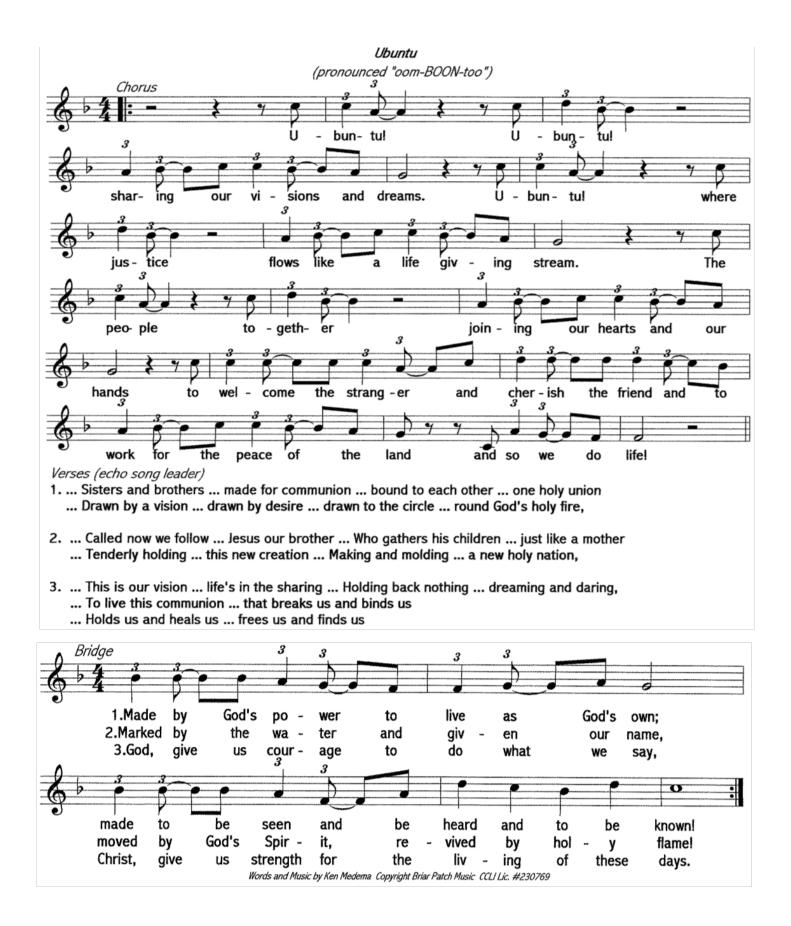
Ubuntu. Words and Music by Ken Medema. © Briar Patch Music. Reprinted with permission. All rights reserved.

The Lord Now Sends Us Forth. Text: Anonymous, Central America tr. Gerhard M. Cartford. Music: Anonymous, Central America; arr. Hymnal version. English text © 1998 Augsburg Fortress, Arrangement © 2003 Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted with permission under One License #A-714192. All rights reserved.



Will You Let Me Be Your Servant (v. 1, 2, 4)





The Lord Now Sends Us Forth ELW538



AR · WHITE

GLE PARENT

HT. ENTREPRENEUR

# OUR Nelcome IS WIDE OPEN

BLUE COLL

COME as you are.

HOMELESS

Skeptic. Cynic. Certain. Believer. Confident. Fearful. Doubter. Seeker. Questioner. Latino. Black. Asian. White. Indigenous. Immigrant. Any combination of ethnic or racial identities. Female. Male. Straight. Gay. Bisexual. Transgender. Questioning. Rich. Poor. Middle-class. Barely making it. Able bodied. Specially abled. Disabled. Young. Old. In-between. Married. Single. Divorced. Awaiting trial. Served time. On probation. Tired. Worn. Hopeful. Employed. Unemployed. Workaholic. Slacker. Anxious. Depressed. Confused. Centered. Inked. Pierced. Both. Life long follower of Jesus. Regular attender. Occasional attender. Curious onlooker. Don't quite fit the box. Need a prayer right now. Trinity is a faith community where we believe in God's love, grace and mercy—illustrated most clearly through Jesus Christ. We believe we are all children of God, created in God's image and equal in God's sight. We believe God loves us just as we are and way too much to let us stay this way. We are called to live in God's light and be transformed, not through judgment but through unconditional love. We believe God's love is all-inclusive and is stronger than the pressure to be perfect regardless of whatever labels we carry. Saint. Sinner. Democrat. Republican. Independent. Libertarian. Green. Socialist. Apolitical. Addicted. Recovering. We don't care what religion or denomination you are. We are all Human. We are all Flawed. We are all Beloved. -You are welcome here.