

WORSHIP HANDOUT
Sunday September 1st
Sacrament of Communion

OPENING OF WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*SONG OF WELCOME We Sing to You, O God TFWS 2001

*CALL TO WORSHIP

The world is hard
Our losses real
Our grief tangible
Our fear palpable

Merciful God, quiet our rush to judgment.

The world is heavy

Our anxiety clawing
Our confusion large
Our responsibility tenuous

Brooding God, slow our impulsive actions.

The world is mystery

Our faith rooting
Our hope kindling
Our love blossoming

Loving God, may we be quick in our understanding of your call.

~ written by Katherine Hawker, on **Liturgy Outside**. <http://liturgyoutside.net/>

OPENING PRAYER

Lord, let our hearts not be far from you.

Help us reach out to our neighbor, even when we are busy or tired.
Let us tear down walls when we'd rather let them stand.

Stretch us, please.

Whether we are visiting a prisoner, offering a smile, feeding the hungry,
be within us so that whatever we do, we do with your love.

Let the world know we are your disciples not because our hands are
clean, but because they are soiled with the mark of your
people. Amen.

~ written by Anne Osdieck, and posted on Saint Louis University's **The Center for Liturgy** web
site. <http://liturgy.slu.edu/>

SONG AS CHILDREN GATHER This, this is where children
belong TFWS 2233

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

LESSON I: **James 1:17-27 CEB**

¹⁷ Every good gift, every perfect gift, comes from above. These gifts come down from the Father, the creator of the heavenly lights, in whose character there is no change at all. ¹⁸ He chose

to give us birth by his true word, and here is the result: we are like the first crop from the harvest of everything he created.

¹⁹ Know this, my dear brothers and sisters: everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to grow angry. ²⁰ This is because an angry person doesn't produce God's righteousness. ²¹ Therefore, with humility, set aside all moral filth and the growth of wickedness, and welcome the word planted deep inside you—the very word that is able to save you.

²² You must be doers of the word and not only hearers who mislead themselves. ²³ Those who hear but don't do the word are like those who look at their faces in a mirror. ²⁴ They look at themselves, walk away, and immediately forget what they were like. ²⁵ But there are those who study the perfect law, the law of freedom, and continue to do it. They don't listen and then forget, but they put it into practice in their lives. They will be blessed in whatever they do.

²⁶ If those who claim devotion to God don't control what they say, they mislead themselves. Their devotion is worthless. ²⁷ True devotion, the kind that is pure and faultless before God the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their difficulties and to keep the world from contaminating us.

May God add a blessing to this reading.

LESSON 2 Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23 CEB

The Pharisees and some legal experts from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus. ² They saw some of his disciples eating food with unclean hands. (They were eating without first ritually purifying their hands through washing. ³ The Pharisees and all the Jews don't eat without first washing their hands carefully. This is a way of observing the rules handed down by

the elders. ⁴ Upon returning from the marketplace, they don't eat without first immersing themselves. They observe many other rules that have been handed down, such as the washing of cups, jugs, pans, and sleeping mats.) ⁵ So the Pharisees and legal experts asked Jesus, "Why are your disciples not living according to the rules handed down by the elders but instead eat food with ritually unclean hands?"

⁶ He replied, "Isaiah really knew what he was talking about when he prophesied about you hypocrites. He wrote,

*This people honors me with their lips,
but their hearts are far away from me.*

⁷ *Their worship of me is empty
since they teach instructions that are human words.*

⁸ You ignore God's commandment while holding on to rules created by humans and handed down to you."

¹⁴ Then Jesus called the crowd again and said, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand. ¹⁵ Nothing outside of a person can enter and contaminate a person in God's sight; rather, the things that come out of a person contaminate the person."

²¹ "It's from the inside, from the human heart, that evil thoughts come: sexual sins, thefts, murders, ²² adultery, greed, evil actions, deceit, unrestrained immorality, envy, insults, arrogance, and foolishness. ²³ All these evil things come from the inside and contaminate a person in God's sight."

This is the Word of God for all people.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Actions and Words

*HYMN

Praise the Source of Faith and Learning TFVVS 2004

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved your neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy.

Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners: that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ you are forgiven!

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
Glory to God. Amen.**

TIME OF PRAYER

PASTORAL AND SILENT PRAYER

PRAYER HYMN In the Singing TFW5 2255

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION (Cont.)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing...

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ...

...as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit...

...almighty Father, now and for ever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray:

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 now and forever. Amen.

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

UMH 95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*UNISON PRAYER

Almighty God,
giver of every good and perfect gift,
teach us to give to you all that we have and all that we are,
that we may praise you not with our words only,
but with our whole lives. Amen.

BREAKING THE BREAD

GIVING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

PRAYER RESPONSE

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*BENEDICTION

May You Run and Not Be Weary TFWS 2281

POSTLUDE