

Sign of Peace

Leader: Jesus said to his apostles I leave you peace, my peace I give you. Let us offer each other a sign of peace.

Closing Poem

In Flanders Fields the poppies grow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below
We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved, and were loved, and now we
lie

In Flanders Fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe;
To you from falling hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies
grow

In Flanders Fields.

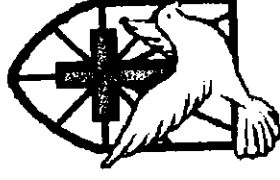
-John McCrae



Spirit of Justice

Opening Prayer/Liturgy

November 2005



Opening Song

WE ARE CALLED

Music and Text by David Haas

Come! Live in the light!

Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!

We are called to be light for the kingdom,

To live in the freedom of the city of God!

We are called to act with justice,

We are called to love tenderly,

We are called to serve one another,

To walk humbly with God!

Come! Open your heart!

Show your mercy to all those in fear!

We are called to be hope for the hopeless,

So all hatred and blindness will be no more!

Sing! Sing a new song!

Sing of that great day when all will be one!

God will reign, and we'll walk with each other,

As sisters and brothers, united in love!



Scripture Reading: **Isaiah 61:1-9**

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion-- to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit; you shall be called priests of the Lord, you shall be named ministers of our God... you shall enjoy the wealth of the nations, and in their riches you shall glory. For I, the Lord, love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

Prayer For Peace

Leader: God of peace, compassion, and faithful love, you created all peoples in your own image and likeness, we beseech your blessing upon our torn, broken, and fragile world.

All: Grant us the grace to contend with all evil and to make no concession to oppression.

Leader: O God, the hope of the powerless, you have chosen as your witnesses those whom the world ignores.

All: Empower us to be transformed by your Holy Spirit to seek creative, life-giving ways to eliminate injustice in our world.

Leader: O God of power, ruler of the universe, your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, became human to bring good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty for captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim the year of your favour.

All: Bless the people of this tiny planet that we might live in the peace you intended for all creation.

The Lord's Prayer

Leader: Let us together pray in the words that Jesus taught us.

Our Father...

All: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever.

