

2016 After Pentecost – Thank God We're All in This Together

GATHERING

SEEKERS CHURCH
A Christian Community
In the Tradition of Church of the Saviour



Season After Pentecost 2016
Thank God We're in This Together

ENTRANCE

REFLECTION

Whenever Jesus says come and follow him, he is saying: I'd like to invite you to join my community. I'd like you to pick up your life, to pack up your bags and come share your life with us. Come join us, come experience the new kind of security that we have found by trusting God together.

Jim Wallis, The Call to Conversion, p.65

CANDLE LIGHTING

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader:

Holy One, Holy Three,
we come to celebrate
being together in your

presence.

People:

We are here to claim our place

in your committed family,
creation,
others alongside

Leader:
the reassurance

All:
stars and all that lives,
together, on the way with you!

carrying your love for all
thankful that there are
who are ready to help us.
Holy Spirit, come fill us with
that we are not alone.
Thanks be to you,
Holy Maker of atoms and
that we are here,

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN

WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

SILENCE

PRAYERS

CONFESSION

Leader:
his community.

Jesus calls us to come
and share our lives with

People:

Caught up in our humanity,
we do not know what to do.

Leader:
lives,

Jesus calls us to pick up our
pack our bags, and follow

him.

People:

We make excuses

about time, energy, and
other commitments.

Leader: Jesus calls us to experience a
new kind of security
found by trusting God
together.

All: We hesitate,
unwilling to fully
respond,
yet no longer comfortable
holding back.

INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE

Leader: Jesus' voice is firm and gentle;
his words, caring;
his community, secure.
We are understood and
forgiven.

All: Amen.

THANKSGIVING AND PRAISE

INTERCESSION AND PETITION

COMMITMENT

All: O Holy One, we come today
to claim our relationship with you.

We pray for the commitment

to grow together,
sharing the gifts you give us with others
here and in the wider world.

Forgive us for the hurt we
have inflicted,
and help us forgive those who have hurt us.

Give us strength and
discipline
to nurture our relationship with you;
to care for every part of your creation;
to foster justice and be in solidarity with those in need;
to work to end all war, and violence, and discord;
and to respond joyfully when you call,
freely giving our selves as you have shown the way.

We open our hearts to you
and your creation in the
name of Jesus, who is the Christ,. Amen

HYMN

THE WORD

SCRIPTURE

SERMON

SILENT REFLECTION

OFFERING

COMMUNION

PREPARATION

Leader 1: This is the table of the Heavenly Feast,
the joyful celebration of the people of God.

Leader 2: We gather now as one body, joined around the

table.

Here we celebrate God's presence among us
united in Christ's spirit, broken and whole all at
once;

All: Nourished and hungry, loved and loving,
sinner and forgiven; we make one circle of
knowing,
believing, rejoicing, being,
as God lights and rests among us.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Leader 1: Holy Maker of atoms and stars and all that
lives,

 we give you thanks for this world and
all its creatures,

 for inviting us to live as one in peace
and justice for all.

People: We give you thanks for your Holy Spirit,
 who sends us dreams and visions of
abundant life,
 in which all are joined in the great
communion of love.

Leader 2: We give you thanks for Jesus the Christ,
 who invites us into his community
of all who love and trust in you.

All: We give you thanks for your holy Church,
 where we practice being united in you,
 trusting you together in every sorrow
and celebration.

BLESSING THE ELEMENTS

Leader 1: Christ invites everyone to eat the bread of
life,
 to drink the cup of the new covenant.

Leader 2: Jesus said, I am the bread of life.
 You who come to me shall never hunger,
 You who believe in me shall never thirst.

Leader 1: On the night of his arrest, Jesus took bread,

and after giving thanks to God, broke it
and said,
This is my body,
broken for the healing of the world.
Whenever you eat it, do so remembering me.

Leader 2: After supper, Jesus took the cup and said,
This is the cup of the new covenant,
poured out for you and for all.
Whenever you drink it, do so remembering me.

All: O Holy One, send down your Spirit
that these gifts of bread and cup
may be for us the body and blood of Christ.
Unite us with Christ forever
and bring us with the whole creation
to your eternal realm.

SHARE THE ELEMENTS

If you do not wish to receive the elements today you are welcome to join the circle and allow them
to pass, or remain in your seat. We serve grape juice in our cups.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

All: God of abundance and mercy,
we give joyful thanks
for your eternal love and healing presence
in our celebration of bread and cup.
Bless this body of Christ
that we may attend faithfully
to our call to be your servants,
with each other and throughout the world.

All: Amen.

SHARED REFLECTIONS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN

BENEDICTION

Leader: Let us go forth with renewed security,
trusting in the Holy Creator,

guided by the Holy Spirit,
and following in the footsteps of Jesus
the Christ.

And now, acknowledging with gladness
that we are, indeed, all in this
together,
let us greet one another with signs of
peace.

All: Amen.

Special Note Regarding the June 19, 2016, Seekers Service

The tragic events in Orlando, FL caused us to use the following in place of the Reflection piece at the beginning of the service.

REFLECTION

The Call of this church says “The Seekers Church community sees itself called into Christ’s ministry of deliverance from bondage to freedom in every personal and corporate expression. We recognize the value of each individual and seek to heal any wounds of discrimination inflicted by our society and church.” As a small step toward such healing, we offer the following excerpt from Jim Wallace’s recent article, “A Theology of Love and Hate: From Charleston to Orlando” posted on June 16 on the Sojourner’s website:

Just as black Americans felt unsafe after Charleston, LGBTQ Americans are feeling unsafe now. The club served as a safe space for an LGBTQ community that too often feels unwelcome in our pews. It is important for Christians to stand up for the safety, humanity, and dignity of LGBTQ people – human beings bearing the image of God. This should wake us all up and cause a re-examination of Christian conscience and compassion in our treatment of all LGBTQ people.