

# Thanksgiving 2003

## Responding from The Heart

### SEEKERS CHURCH

#### A Christian Community

*In the Tradition of the Church of the Saviour*

#### Thanksgiving 2003

#### Responding from The Heart

### REFLECTION

“No matter how hard you strike a bell, it will ring. What else is it made for? Even under the hammer blows of fate the heart rings true. The human heart is made for universal praise. As long as we pick and choose, making praise depend on our approval, we are not yet responding from the heart.”

Brother David Steindl-Rast. “Gratefulness, the Heart of Prayer,” pg 82.

### PRELUDE

### SILENCE

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader:           Awaken!

The new day reveals itself in every moment,  
and by the grace of God all things are made possible.

                  Come, let us give thanks.

All:                         We give thanks to you, blessed, mysterious  
Life-giver,  
                                  for one more day to experience the miracle of  
creation.

Voice 1:           With every breath  
we remember that life is a gift,  
                          and we give thanks.

Voice 2:           With every step  
we know the wonder of walking on the Earth,  
                          and we give thanks.

Leader:           With every word  
we affirm God's transforming love for each of us,  
                          and we give thanks.

All:                         Holy Beloved, through you all things are made

new.

Creation is full of your glory. All praise be yours!

## **INVOCATION**

## **HYMN**

## **SILENCE**

## **LITANY**

Leader: Blessed is the earth from which we grow.

People: Blessed the life we are lent.

Leader: Blessed the ones who teach us,

People: Blessed the ones we teach.

Leader: Blessed is the word

that cannot say the glory that shines through  
us

and remains to shine

flowing past distant suns on the way to

forever.

All: Blessed is light, blessed is darkness.  
Let's say amen.

## **SILENCE**

### **PRAYERS**

#### **CONFESSION**

Leader: Shall we receive good at the hand of God  
and not receive the bad?

People: When we find ourselves in misfortune,  
we forget to give thanks in all things.

Leader: Shall we receive good at the hand of God  
and not receive the bad?

People: When we do not like what God has given us,  
we refuse the blessing and see only a curse.

Leader: Shall we receive good at the hand of God  
and not receive the bad?

All: Forgive us, Holy One,  
when we do not bless what is.

## ASSURANCE

Leader:            In loving compassion,  
                               we are blessed and made whole.

                   We live by every word  
                   that comes from the mouth of God.

All:                         Amen.

## PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

## HYMN

## THE WORD

Scripture

Sermon

Silent Reflection

## OFFERING

## SHARED REFLECTIONS

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **HYMN**

## **BENEDICTION**

Leader:           We stand in the midst of the burning world  
                          primed to burn with compassionate love and  
justice.

See under the trash, through the smog.

See the world that is all of one flesh with us.

Go into the world in peace.

All:                   Amen.

Worship Resources:

Litany based on "Kaddish" by Marge Piercy

Confession and assurance based on Job 1-2.

Benediction based on "Nishmat" by Marge Piercy