

Church at home

East Leake Methodist Church 2020

Sit comfortably in a quiet place and prepare, start with a brief period of silence, turning your mind and spirit towards God. You may want to have a cross or candle in view as a focus.

The theme for worship is “Taste and See” when we will reflect on the bountiful gifts of God through Creation. There will be readings and responses and you are invited to look at the Bible passages and to reflect on the responses, considering your response to the gifts of God in your life.

WE GIVE THANKS FOR GOD'S ABUNDANT LOVE as we are reminded of the Creation
Reading: Genesis 7:29-31

Our God is a God of abundance!

God created our world to be rich in resources and diverse in food, providing more than enough, so that everyone born and every living creature would be blessed and thrive.

The rains come and the sun shines, so that in due season the earth yields its harvest and the vineyards bear fruit.

R: You are the source of all goodness, O God of abundance! Thank you for your love.

It delights God when we enjoy the goodness of food! With our eyes we see the vibrant colours of tomatoes and carrots, blueberries and bananas. With our noses we smell wafting aromas of coffee brewing and freshly baked bread. With our tongues we taste the savouriness of spices and the sweetness of honey. As our stomachs are filled, we feel satisfied and nourished.

R: We taste and we see that, you, O Lord are good! Thank you for your love!

In the gospels we can see many occasions of Jesus sharing in a meal of some kind.

Reading: John 6:11-13

From a simple offering of loaves and fish, Jesus the Bread of Life lavishly provided for the multitudes.

With blessings to spare, blessings to share, the Lord provides.

R: Generous God, we thank you for food and for life, which satisfies us beyond what we deserve.

Our hearts overflow with gratitude for the richness of your love, O Lord.

Stir us, then, to compassionately care for those who hunger, despite our world of plenty. For the tens of thousands of children and their families who face life-threatening shortages in food and water, we seek your mercy and justice. Your love reaches beyond the structures of poverty, drought, famine, disasters, and political conflicts that bind and oppress them.

R: Give us all this day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins.

HOW DO WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GIFT TO US?

Reading." Luke 17:11-19

Are we indifferent like the 9 or grateful like the Samaritan

WE CONFESS OUR OWN INDIFFERENCE

So let us pray

- when we turn a blind eye to the needs of others,

R: Forgive us, healing Lord.

- when our greed causes us to keep for ourselves that which should be shared,

R: Forgive us, healing Lord.

- when our demands for convenience place undue burdens on the world,

R: Forgive us, healing Lord.

- when we remain silent against injustice and suffering of those most vulnerable.

R: Forgive us, healing Lord.

Move us on to more faithful living, so that our lives may be reflections of gratitude in all things.

May we find joy in the simplicity and the sacredness in the everyday blessings you give. Amen

WE SEEK GOD'S KINGDOM ON EARTH

As we seek God's kingdom here on earth we are reminded of how the early followers acted:

Reading: Acts 2:46-47

When we come to the Communion Table, we gather as followers of the risen Christ in a spirit of thanksgiving. As the disciples discovered at Emmaus, Christ is present with us in the breaking of bread and in the sharing of faith, love and delight with one another.

Giver of every blessing, we long to be the transformed community where all are fed and filled to abundance.

Inspire us to work towards a world of compassion and justice, with hearts that hunger and thirst for righteousness. **Amen**

