

Welcome the Stranger Worship

November 3, 2024

+A liturgical resource from Global Refuge+

Welcoming newcomers since 1939

Join us for a service centered on hospitality and refuge as we seek to live out our biblical call to welcome the stranger.



www.riverofhopehutchinson.org

Worship on Facebook Premiere, Sundays at 10:30am

Gathering

Music to Prepare us for Worship

Gathering Song "All Are Welcome"

ALL ARE WELCOME

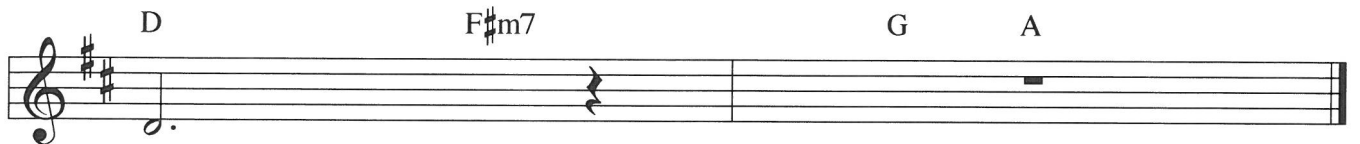
Hans Peterson
Larry Olson



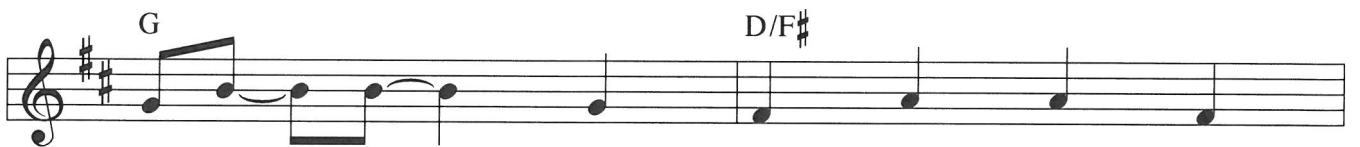
All are wel - come, friend and stran - ger, at the ban - quet



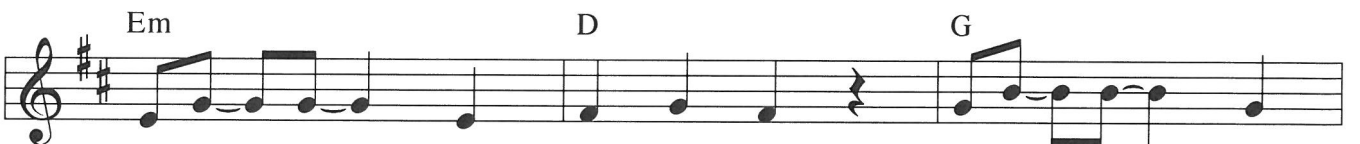
of the Sav - ior. All are wel - come. All are wel - come



here.



From the wo - man who comes cry - ing,
From the ones who feel for - got - ten,
Go in - to the streets and cit - ies,



leav - ing tears at Je - sus feet, to the man who
those who sense their place is gone, to the ones who
to the farms and fam - i - lies, tell a - bout the



knows the right way but can - not see.
live in hun - ger, here you be - long.
splen - did ta - ble, God's mer - cy.

Welcome * Welcome Pads * Post it Notes *

Wherever you are on your journey of faith, we believe God meets you right where you are, and you are welcome here.

*“God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.”
Psalm 46:1*

This day and all days we give thanks for all the incredible gifts immigrants and refugees are to communities across our country and the globe. We also lament the pain and suffering that is felt as so many people worldwide are forced to flee their homes in search of new beginnings. May we welcome with loving arms and ask God to forgive us for all the ways we have shown complacency in our failures to welcome newcomers.

Elements of our service order today were created by our ministry partners at Global Refuge, formerly Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service. 85 years ago, their work began as heartbroken Lutherans welcomed their European siblings displaced by the violence of the World Wars. Global Refuge remains grounded in faith and has grown to support more than 750,000 newcomers – responding to conflicts in Cuba, Uganda, Vietnam, The Balkans, Syria, Afghanistan, Iraq, Ukraine, Venezuela and more. Whether generations ago, or in recent years, we are all connected to journeys across borders. While the circumstances that force people to flee their homes may change throughout time and space, the themes of courage, hope and hospitality remain constant in every immigrant journey.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Leader: Holy God, we thank you for the love you show for all of us, showing no partiality across cultures and races.

Congregation: Give us good courage to remember that we are all your beloved children.

L: God of all, forgive us for our complacency. We acknowledge the many ways we collectively have fallen short of our calling, knowing that it is both what we do and what we do not do that can be sinful. Forgive us for all the times and places we have failed to welcome the stranger. Forgive us for the times we prioritized our comfort over expanding our knowledge and advocacy.

C: Ignite our hearts, Oh Lord, to remember that you are present in all who flee their homes and search for new opportunities.

L: God of the Trinity, we remember that you sent Jesus to Earth not only to be with refugees, but as a refugee himself. You made yourself known in human form as a Palestinian outcast, born to a poor, young woman who was forced to flee all that was familiar and dear.

C: Remind us, oh Lord, that as we welcome refugees and immigrants today, we welcome you. Forgive us for all of the ways we have individually and collectively fallen short to do this holy work of welcome.

L: God, we acknowledge that walls and all earthly systems that work to separate us from one another are not your desire for your beloved people. Give us good courage to open our arms wide and strong in welcome and convict us to make real your kingdom of love, joy, grace, justice, and hospitality real here on Earth.

C: Forgive us, Oh God, Work through us and within us to share your love.

GREETING

L: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the community of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Oh God of welcome, we give you abundant thanks for our immigrant neighbors and community members. We celebrate all of the richness and diversity they bring to our world and to our communities and that you call them by name just as you call us by name. Today, as we give thanks for the gift newcomers are to our community, reconvict us to work for a justice and abounding love that is rooted in hospitality and welcoming of all. May our hospitality bring joy to not only those we work to welcome, but to us as well.

Amen.

Greet Someone New

Music to Bring Us Back Together: "All Are Welcome" Verse 2 and Chorus

Children's Time

The Word

(Reader): You are invited to stand in body or in spirit as our story and God's story continues today with our Scripture reading. You are invited to follow along in your Bibles or simply listen to these words from Psalm 46.

¹ God is our refuge and strength,
an ever-present help in trouble.

² Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way
and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,

- ³ though its waters roar and foam
and the mountains quake with their surging.^[c]
- ⁴ There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy place where the Most High dwells.
- ⁵ God is within her, she will not fall;
God will help her at break of day.
- ⁶ Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall;
he lifts his voice, the earth melts.
- ⁷ The Lord Almighty is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.
- ⁸ Come and see what the Lord has done,
the desolations he has brought on the earth.
- ⁹ He makes wars cease
to the ends of the earth.
He breaks the bow and shatters the spear;
he burns the shields^[d] with fire.
- ¹⁰ He says, "Be still, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth."
- ¹¹ The Lord Almighty is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.

(Reader): *Stay tuned for the continuing saga that is our story and God's story.*

(ALL): Thanks be to God.

SERMON - Deacon Sarah Kretschmann

Song of the Day – "Jesus Entered Egypt"

Text: Adam Tice

JESUS ENTERED EGYPT

Music: Hans Peterson

Em D Am Bm



Je - sus en - tered E - gypt flee - ing Her - od's hand,
Je - sus was a mi - grant liv - ing as a guest
Je - sus cross - es bor - ders with the wan - d'ring poor,

C Em Am7 Bm7 Em



Liv - ing as an a - lien in a for - eign land.
with the friends and stran - gers who could of - fer rest.
search - ing for a ref - uge, for an o - pen door.

G D C B7



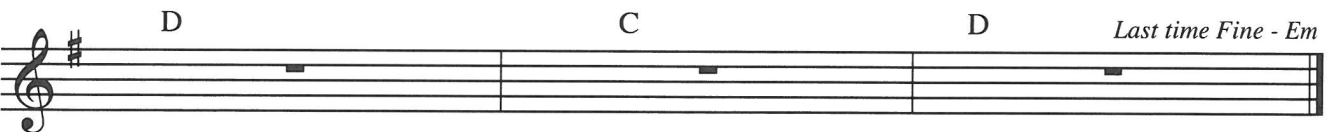
Far from home and coun - try with his fam - i - ly,
Do we hold wealth light - ly so that we can share
Do our words and ac - tions an - swer Je - sus' plea:

C Em Am7 Bm7 Em



was there room and wel - come for this ref - u - gee?
shel - ter with the home - less, and a - bun - dant care?
"Give the low - ly wel - come, and you wel - come me"?"

D C D Last time Fine - Em



STATEMENT OF FAITH

L: Today, we will read together “THE IMMIGRANTS CREED” by Rev. Jose Luis Casal, former director of Presbyterian World Mission. It is an interpretation of our creeds through the lens of a newcomer.

I believe in Almighty God, who guided the people in exile and in exodus, the God of Joseph in Egypt and Daniel in Babylon, the God of foreigners and immigrants.

I believe in Jesus Christ, a displaced Galilean, who was born away from his people and his home, who fled his country with his parents when his life was in danger. When he returned to his own country he suffered under the oppression of Pontius Pilate, the servant of a foreign power. Jesus was persecuted, beaten, tortured, and unjustly condemned to death. But on the third day Jesus rose from the dead, not as a scorned foreigner but to offer us citizenship in God’s kingdom.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the eternal immigrant from God’s kingdom among us, who speaks all languages, lives in all countries, and reunites all races. I believe that the Church is the secure home for foreigners and for all believers. I believe that the communion of saints begins when we embrace all God’s people in all their diversity. I believe in forgiveness, which makes us all equal before God, and in reconciliation, which heals our brokenness.

I believe that in the Resurrection God will unite us as one people in which all are distinct, and all are alike at the same time. I believe in life eternal, in which no one will be a foreigner, but all will be citizens of the kingdom where God reigns forever and ever.

Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L: With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation. For the full family of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and by your grace be found without fault at the last day:

God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the peace of the church, that our divisions may be overcome, so that, united in Christ, we may serve the world and bear witness to the good news:

God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and understanding may grow among nations, peoples, and faith traditions:

God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the whole creation, That the life you've given us, and all its blessings, might be used to restore your Creation, bring healing to those impacted by changing climate, and breath love back into the Earth.

God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the poor, the persecuted, and the displaced; For the sick, the lonely, the forgotten, and all who suffer; for refugees, and for those seeking asylum; for prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be protected and relieved:

God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For all of God's people, Give us eyes to see our neighbor in all settings; empower us to receive our siblings with love, and grant us strength to do so when fear and hate would have us do otherwise:

God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*Other intercessions may be included. The presiding minister concludes the prayers with these or similar words. Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.***

THE OFFERING

Thank you for your continued generosity and for all the ways you support God's ministry here at River of Hope. You can contact the church office and sign up for simply giving or give online or drop a check off at the church office. The watering can during November is for Global Refuge. Those looking to donate to support our shared ministry with newcomers can visit www.GlobalRefuge.org/Give/ or reach out to the Mobilization and Faith Relations team at Global Refuge to learn more about donating time, talent or other resources by emailing outreach@globalrefuge.org. Any children willing to help are invited to meet Pastor Hans in the back to bring forth the Communion elements.

Offering Song: "When the Poor Ones"

When the Poor Ones

Cuando el pobre



1 *Cuan-do el po-bre na-da tie-ne yaún re-par-te,*
 1 When the poor ones, who have noth-ing, still are giv-ing;
 2 When com-pas-sion gives the suf-f'ring con-so-la-tion;
 3 When our spir-its, like a chal-ice, brim with glad-ness;
 4 When the good-ness poured from heav-en fills our dwell-ings;



cuan-do al-guien pa-sa sed ya-gua nos da,
 when the thirst-y pass the cup, wa-ter to share;
 when ex-pect-ing brings to birth hope that was lost;
 when our voic-es, full and clear, sing out the truth;
 when the na-tions work to change war in-to peace;



cuan-do el dé-bil a su her-ma-no for-ta-le-ce:
 when the wound-ed of-fer oth-ers strength and heal-ing:
 when we choose love, not the ha-tred all a-round us:
 when our long-ings, free from en-vy, seek the hum-ble:
 when the strang-er is ac-cept-ed as our neigh-bor:

Refrain / Estribillo



Va Dios mis-mo en nues-tro mis-mo ca-mi-nar;
 We see God, here by our side, walk-ing our way;



va Dios mis-mo en nues-tro mis-mo ca-mi-nar.
 we see God, here by our side, walk-ing our way.

The Feast

(Pastor Hans): Setting the Table

the children lead us as we say together:

**Gracious God, we thank you for the food before us;
the family beside us; the love between us;
and your presence among us.
Amen.**

Thanksgiving at the Table

The Lord is with you

And also with you

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

As we gather in this place, we remember, that in the night when Jesus was betrayed by his best friends, he took bread. He blessed it and broke it and gave it to these same friends saying, "Take and eat. This is my body given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup, blessed it and gave it for all to drink saying, "This is the new covenant, the new promise, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this for the remembrance of me." Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray;

The Lord's Prayer

(Leader): *Our Creator, our Mother,*

(ALL): 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. Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us...Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

This is Christ's table. It's a table of love and welcome. It's a table of fellowship with the poor and communion with the earth.

So, come, those of you with great faith and those of you who wish you had more. Come, those of you who have tried to follow Jesus and those of you who have failed. Come, those of you who depend on this meal for your lives, and those of you for whom it is a strange thing.

The gifts of God are...

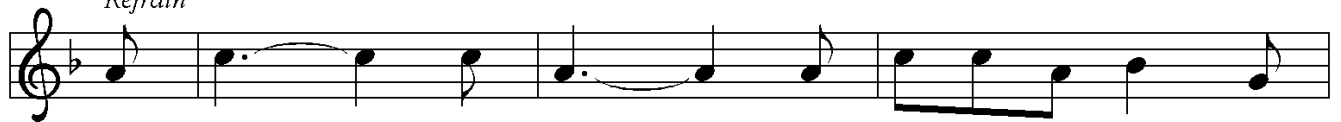
(ALL): Free

Free indeed. And all are welcome to receive the sacrament.


Communion Songs: "Will You Let Me Be Your Servant" and "Make Me a Servant"

Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love

Refrain



Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love, show




us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you.



1 Kneels at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - es their feet,
2 Neigh-bors are wealth-y and poor, var - ied in col - or and race,
3 These are the ones we will serve, these are the ones we will love;
4 Kneel at the feet of our friends, si - lent - ly wash - ing their feet:

Refrain



mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.
neigh-bors are near - by and far a - way.
all these are neigh - bors to us and you.
this is the way we will live with you.

Text: Tom Colvin, 1925–2000, alt.

Music: CHEREPONI, Ghanaian folk tune, adapt. Tom Colvin

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For All the Saints



1 For all the saints who from their labors rest, who
 2 Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might; thou,
Stanzas 3-5 on facing page.
 6 But then there breaks a yet more glorious day: the
 7 From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast, through



thee by faith before the world confessed, thy
 Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight; . . .
 saints triumphant rise in bright array; the
 gates of pearl streams in the countless host, . . .



name, O Jesus, be forever blest.
 thou, in the darkness dread, their one true light.
 King of glory passes on his way.
 sing - ing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



3 Oh, blest communion, fellowship divine,
 4 And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,
 5 The golden evening brightens in the west;



we fee - bly strug - gle, they in glo - ry shine; yet
 steals on the ear the dis - tant tri - umph song, and
 soon, soon to faith - ful ser - vants com - eth rest; . . .

all are one in thee, for all are thine.
 hearts are brave a - gain and arms are strong.
 sweet is the calm of par - a - dise the blest.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: William W. How, 1823–1897
 Music: SINE NOMINE, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958
 Outside USA: Music from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906.

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Blessing after Communion

Now may the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in God's grace. **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray: Gracious God,
in this meal you have drawn us
to your heart, and nourished us at your table.

By your Holy Spirit, enliven us to be your body in the world, that we may show Christ's love to all people. Amen.

The Sending

Why does our church exist? What is our purpose?

We go out to transform lives through Jesus Christ.

Purpose Sightings

GLOBAL REFUGE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ways to get involved in the work of welcome with Global Refuge:
Circle of Welcome: Faith communities across the country partner with a local resettlement agency to provide wrap-around support to a family entering the United States.

Fresh Change: In partnership with Border Servant Corps, Fresh Change offers an opportunity to welcome immigrants with a bag of new clothing.

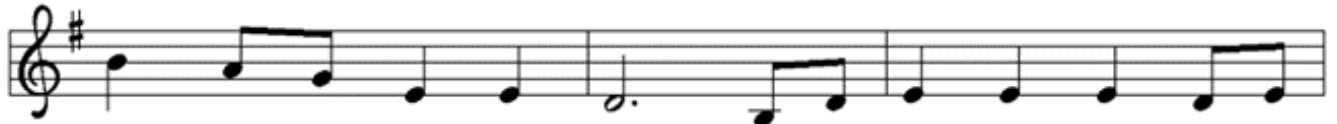
Global Refuge has a monthly newsletter for congregations with all the latest updates. Email outreach@globalrefuge.org to sign up for the newsletter and visit www.globalrefuge.org/congregations to learn more.

MILESTONES! Sing “Canticle of the Turning” vs. 3(b)

It's time for sharing milestones - a time where we join together as a community to share the big, small, good, and hard milestones in our life.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
The hun - gry poor shall . . . weep no more, for the
This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry
prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

Text: Rory Cooney, b. 1952, based on the Magnificat
Music: STAR OF COUNTY DOWN, Irish traditional
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Blessing

The blessing of God,
who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,
✠ be upon you now and forever.

Amen.

Sending Song: "Travelers on the Journey"

(Invite children of all ages to come forward and play percussion during the Sending Song)

TRAVELERS ON THE JOURNEY

Larry Olson
Hans Peterson

F(D) B♭(G) F(D) C(A) F(D) B♭(G) Dm(Bm)

We are trav - 'lers on the jour - ney, yearn - ing to

C(A) F(D) B♭(G) F(D) C(A)

be - lieve. Hearts are burn - ing, eyes are o - pen.

F(D) B♭(G) Dm(Bm) C(A) F(D) B♭(G) F(D) C(A)

We are trav - 'lers on the jour - ney of love.

Dm(Bm) C(A) F(D)

What is life real - ly all a - bout in the strug - gle of
Do we walk in our fool - ish - ness without hearts ev - er
We are blessed in the gath - er - ing at the ta - ble of

C(A) Gm(Em) Csus(Asus) C(A)

faith? Hear the word reach - ing out to you,
slow to the touch of the Ho - ly One
grace. Free to see in an - oth - er's pain the

Gm(Em) F/A(D/F♯) B♭(G) C(A)

Je - sus is a - live to - day. _____
who is with us on this road? _____
face of Je - sus here to day. _____

Go in peace. Welcome the Stranger.

Thanks be to God

Music to Send You Out

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