

One: Often we would rather be guided by what we want rather than what you want.

All: Forgive us, God.

One: Transform us by your Spirit and make us new,

All: we pray in Christ’s name. Amen.

Time of Silent Prayer

Assurance of Grace

One: Beloved, the grace of God companions with you along the road.

All: We journey this life in Christ, through Christ, and with Christ.

One: May we trust and rely upon the wisdom of the Everlasting One who brings us new life and transformation

All: We receive God’s grace which frees us from fear in order to embrace the journey. Amen

Act of Praise “Doxology” #46

Scripture 2 Kings 2: 9-14 & Luke 9: 51-62

Sermon Rev. Wendy Schindler-Chasney

Hymn “Here I Am, Lord” #452

Pastoral Prayer and Lord’s Prayer

Prayer Response:

One: Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

Hymn “Be Thou My Vision” #595

Benediction

Closing Song

*“Blest Be The Tie That Binds”
Blest be the tie that binds
Our Hearts in Christian Love
The fellowship of kindred minds
Is like to that above. Amen*

Postlude

Parts of this morning liturgy have been adapted from: “Worship Ways: UCC”. “Feasting on the Word: Liturgies for Year C. Vol. II” edited by Kimberly Bracken-Long. “Seasons online, 2022”. “CCLI License #21244145 (Streaming) & #21244138 (Copyright)”



Morning Scriptures

2 Kings 2: 9-14

9 When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, ‘Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.’ Elisha said, ‘Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.’ ¹⁰He responded, ‘You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.’ ¹¹As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. ¹²Elisha kept watching and crying out, ‘Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!’ But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

13 He picked up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. ¹⁴He took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and struck the water, saying, ‘Where is the Lord, the God of Elijah?’ When he had struck the water, the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and Elisha went over.

Luke 9: 51-62

51 When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. ⁵²And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; ⁵³but they did not receive him, because his face was set towards Jerusalem. ⁵⁴When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, ‘Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?’^a ⁵⁵But he turned and rebuked them. ⁵⁶Then^b they went on to another village.

57 As they were going along the road, someone said to him, ‘I will follow you wherever you go.’ ⁵⁸And Jesus said to him, ‘Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.’ ⁵⁹To another he said, ‘Follow me.’ But he said, ‘Lord, first let me go and bury my father.’ ⁶⁰But Jesus^c said to him, ‘Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God.’ ⁶¹Another said, ‘I will follow you, Lord; but let me

first say farewell to those at my home.’ ⁶²Jesus said to him, ‘No one who puts a hand to the plough and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.’