

SEEKERS CHURCH
A Church of the Saviour Community
Jubilee 2026
Wake Up!

GATHERING TIME

REFLECTION

The worst thing we ever did
was put God in the sky
out of reach
pulling the divinity
from the leaf,
sifting out the holy from our bones,
insisting God isn't bursting dazzlement
through everything we've made
a hard commitment to see as ordinary,
stripping the sacred from everywhere
to put in a cloud man elsewhere,
prying closeness from your heart.

The worst thing we ever did
was take the dance and the song
out of prayer
made it sit up straight
and cross its legs
removed it of rejoicing
wiped clean its hip sway,
its questions,
its ecstatic yowl,
its tears.

The worst thing we ever did is pretend
God isn't the easiest thing
in this Universe
available to every soul
in every breath.

~ Chelan Harkin, in *Susceptible to Light*

<https://pollycastor.com/2021/06/13/the-worse-thing-we-ever-did-poem-by-chelan-harkin/>

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come, people of God,
awake to the presence
of the Holy One,
who is here among us.

People: We come, waking up
to the sacred in the leaf,
in our bones,
in ordinary things everywhere.

Leader: Keep awake to the reality
of your faith, love, and hope;
find salvation in your song and dance,
your questions, joy, and tears.

People: We come to wake up
to the Holy One,
not far away in the sky
but within our reach.

Leader: Awake or asleep we live
with Jesus the Christ among us.
Come and see how easy God is,
available to everyone,
in every breath.

All: We come to encourage one another
and build each other up,
sharing from our bones and hearts
the sacred Spirit of the universe.

LIGHTING THE ALTAR CANDLE

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN

SILENCE

PRAYERS

CONFESSION

Leader: Holy God, it's easy to put you in the clouds,
too far away to make this world a better place.

People: We want to be your people, but we get confused.
We love the life we have,
and look for ways to hold it fast.

Leader: Living Christ, we want to join you on the way,

People: The noise of war and violence
fills our hearts with fear and dread.

Leader: Jesus' revolutionary life and death and resurrection
calls us to wake up to the bursting dazzlement
of everything all around us.

All: We struggle to take care of those we love,
and don't have much to give away.
We struggle to keep faith.

INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE

Leader: God loves us,
forgiving all our fears and failures,
showing us new ways to live and love

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 Creator of heaven and earth,
we give you thanks for being closer
and more accessible than the air we breathe.

People: Holy Giver of dance and song
we give you thanks for your child Jesus,
who showed us how to pray,
as we move and sing.

Leader 2: Holy Source of energy and power
we give you thanks for your Spirit,
giving us strength and insight
as we make choices in our living
and prepare for our dying.

All: Holy God of ecstasy and lament,
we give you thanks for your Church,
the Body of Christ here and now,
where we can voice our joy and suffering.

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 he gave himself up, 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 grain and grape,
and work of human hands
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

Leader 1: The body of Christ, broken for all of us.
Feed on Christ in your hearts with thanksgiving.

Leader 2: The cup of the new covenant,
poured out for the healing of the world.
Drink deeply of it.

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. Amen.

SHARED REFLECTIONS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN

BENEDICTION

Leader: As we awaken to the bursting dazzlement of God's presence,
may the love of Jesus Christ surround us
and may the Holy Spirit inspire
swaying hips and ecstatic yowls.
Go in peace.

All: Amen