

Who is my neighbor?

A hunger emphasis liturgy

by Katie Cook



Processional hymn
“God of Justice, God of Mercy”
Words: Jane Parker Huber, 1983
Music: Rowland Hugh Pritchard, 1855
Tune: HYFERDOL
A Singing Faith #63

Call to worship
ONE: God of all creation, earth, grain, water,
yeast, sun, grapes and air,
MANY: *Gather us together like the ingredients of
bread and wine.*

ONE: We are crushed under foot like grapes
in a winepress.
MANY: *Let the Spirit of grace ferment in our
church and relationships.*

ONE: Knead our lives together in this moment
through pain and joy.
MANY: *Let your creative fire transform us into
the Body of Christ.*
—Lucas Land

Invocation

Meditation of contemplation
Let us sit down soon to eat

with all those who haven’t eaten;
let us spread great tablecloths,
put salt in the lakes of the world,
set up planetary bakeries,
stables with strawberries in snow,
and a plate like the moon itself
from which we can all eat.
—Pablo Neruda, *Chilean poet
and Nobel Laureate*

Hebrew scripture reading
Deuteronomy 10:12-19

Responsive word from the prophets
ONE: This is what God says: I don’t want all
of your fancy worship.
MANY: *This is what I want from you: to break
the chains of injustice, get rid of exploitation in
the workplace, free the oppressed, to cancel debts.*
ONE: This is what I want from you: to
share your food with the hungry, invite the
homeless poor into your homes, put clothes
on people who are shivering, to take care of
your own families.
MANY: *If you do this, your lives will be full of
sunlight. Then, when you pray, I will answer.
Then, when you call for help, I will be there.*

ONE: I want you to get rid of your unfair
practices, quit blaming victims and quit
gossiping about other people’s sins. I want
you to be generous with the hungry and
start giving yourselves to the people who
need you.
MANY: *If you do this, your lives will begin
to glow in the darkness, where once there was
shadow, there will be bright sunshine.*
—adapted from Isaiah 58:6-10 in
—The Message and the NRSV

Hymn
“Come Celebrate the Call of God”
Words: Brian Wren, 1989
Music: Hal H. Hopson, 1993
Tune: ALIDA’S TUNE
Chalice Hymnal #454

Epistle reading
1 Timothy 6:6-19

Gospel reading
Luke 10:25-37

Drama
“What Am I Supposed to Do
about Hunger?”
a dramatic project for children & youth
by Katie Cook
(see page 11 of the Hunger Emphasis Packet)

Sermon
“Go and Do Likewise: Hearing the Good
Samaritan Story as Adults”
by Marsha Martie
(see page 8 of the Hunger Emphasis Packet)

Invitation to the table
We welcome all to this table, which is the
table of our Lord. As we gather at the table,
let us remember that the ones with whom
we share are the daughters and sons of God,
and so, too, are the people outside these walls
who need our help.

The bread
The celebrant lifts the bread and says,
As we share this bread, we thank you, God,
for our daily bread, for the food that delights
and nourishes us and for the companionship
that sustains us.

The celebrant breaks the bread and says,
On the night before his death, Jesus was at
supper with his friends. He took bread from
the table and blessed it, and gave thanks
for it. Then he gave it to his friends, saying,
“Take this and eat it, for it is my body.” As
we take this bread, we remember that he also
said, “Whenever you give bread to the least
of my brothers and sisters, you have given it
to me.”

The cup
The celebrant lifts the cup and says,
We thank, you, God for the cup that quenches

our thirst and for the Living Water with
which you surprise and enrich and
transform our lives.

The celebrant pours the cup and says,
On the night before his death, Jesus also
took a cup of wine from the table. When
he had given thanks, he gave it to his
friends, and said, “Drink this, all of you.”
In drinking from this cup, we remember
that he also said, “Whenever you give
something to my brothers and sisters to
drink, you have also quenched my thirst.”

Communion blessing
Giving God, bless all who have gathered
round this table. May we know the
fullness of your presence at every meal
and in all our sharing times. Amen.

Meditation of commitment
*If you haven’t already played it, this would
be a good place to play “A Little Bit of You”
by Marsha Martie (see page 3 of the Hunger
Emphasis packet).*

Hymn
“You Satisfy the Hungry Heart”
Words: Omer Westendorf, 1976
Music: Robert E. Kreutz, 1976
Tune: FINEST WHEAT
Chalice Hymnal #429

Benediction
May God bless each of us as we make
our way from here, and as we continue
our journey. In our times of need, may
we find a table spread in the wilderness
and companions on the road. In our times
of plenty, may our eyes be open to the
hungry one lost in the wilderness. God,
give us the grace to share our plenty with
him. In our times of plenty, may we see
the one who needs our companionship,
and may we have the courage to reach out
our hands to her.
—Katie Cook is the Seeds of Hope editor.

How much do you know about hunger?

compiled by Natalia Alas

Test your hunger knowledge by taking the following quiz.

1. One in ___ Americans do not have access to enough food.
A. 5 B. 2 C. 6 D. 8
2. True or False: The lack of adequate nutrition affects a child's cognitive, physical and behavioral development.
A. True B. False
3. Approximately how much of the population in developing countries is undernourished?
A. 15 percent B. 20 percent C. 10 percent D. 5 percent
4. How many US dollars does it cost per day to provide a child with all of the vitamins and nutrients he or she needs to grow up healthy?
A. \$1.00 B. \$5.00 C. \$0.25 D. \$10.00
5. How many people in the world do not have enough to eat?
A. 50 million B. 100 million C. 500 million D. 870 million
6. What percentage of deaths in children under the age of 5 in developing countries is linked to undernutrition?
A. one-third B. one-half C. one-fourth D. one-eighth
7. 1,345 million people in developing countries live on \$ ___ per day or less.
A. \$0.40 B. \$1.25 C. \$1.00 D. \$0.75
8. True or False: A key cause of food insecurity in the United States is the lack of sufficient resources to cover the cost of food in addition to meeting other basic needs.
A. True B. False
9. How much do low-income households spend on food?
A. 18.5 percent B. 20 percent C. 16.4 percent D. 10 percent
10. One in ___ people will go to bed hungry tonight.
A. eight B. six C. ten D. five

—Natalie Alas, a native of Pearland, TX, is a Professional Writing student at Baylor University and a Seeds of Hope intern.