***Opening Litany – Rev. Lisa Barnes, USS***

God of land and sea, as you tend the soil of all that you have created,

we offer praise for the gifts you have given us,

even as we lament the many ways in which we have exploited this gift.

**We sing praises for your creation,**

**and we weep for the abuses we have wreaked upon it.**

We lament that we have taken for granted the abundance of your natural resources. May we remember our deep connection to the earth and seek to be better stewards it.

**We sing praises for your creation,**

**and we weep for the abuses we have wreaked upon it.**

We praise you for the birds of the air, the fish of the sea,

and the animals that roam the land. May we remember our interconnectedness with these many species and honor their habitats.

**We sing praises for your creation,**

**and we weep for the abuses we have wreaked upon it.**

We lament that in our drive toward modernization,

we have stripped your land and polluted your soil and water.

May we remember the lushness of the Garden of Eden

and seek to restore green spaces and clean water.

**We sing praises for your creation,**

**and we weep for the abuses we have wreaked upon it.**

We praise you for community gardens that allow us to share earth’s bounty with those who are food insecure or lack the ability to grow fresh produce.

May we remember to find innovative ways to feast together

in the earth’s goodness.

**We sing praises for your creation,**

**and we weep for the abuses we have wreaked upon it.**

We lament that industrialized agriculture has led to a dwindling of family-owned farms. May we remember to advocate for generational farmers

and may we support local growers of meat and produce.

**We sing praises for your creation,**

**and we weep for the abuses we have wreaked upon it.**

We praise you for the way your soil continues to regenerate and reproduce despite our what we have done to it. May we remember to revel in the beauty of creation and respect the deep roots of what you have provided.

**We sing praises for your creation,**

**and we weep for the abuses we have wreaked upon it.**

God of all that is good,

You continue to offer new life when all seems withered and dying,

abundance where we perceive scarcity, and beauty in unexpected places.

**Thanks be to God!**

***Thanksgiving for Baptism – Dr. Crystal Hall, ULS***

God of all that is good,

like a tree planted by the water you will not be moved.

You created us in your image

and placed us in a well-watered garden.

In the desert, you promised pools of water for the parched,

and you gave us water from the rock.

When we did not know the way,

you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters.

At the cross, you washed us from Jesus’ wounded side,

and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life.

We give you thanks and praise for your salvation through water,

and for all water everywhere.

We give you thanks for the Schuylkill and Susquehanna Rivers,

for Wissahickon Creek and San Francisco Bay,

for the Pymatuning Reservoir and Lake Atitlán.

We give you thanks for the water in bowls on our desks,

in glasses in our offices,

in bottles in our cars and in our backpacks.

Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love.

Satisfy all who thirst,

and give us the life only you can give.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ,

our living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**

***Prayers of Intercession – Rev. Jennifer Hope-Tringali***

In Christ Jesus we meet the God who knows our weakness and bears the wounds of the world. Therefore, let us be bold as we pray, trusting that God draws near to those in any kind of need.

*A brief silence.*

God of the church, you send the Holy Spirit to guide ministries of reconciliation throughout our congregations. Lift up faithful missionaries who teach and feed those who are in need. Guide advocates from Lutheran Disaster Relief to partner with neighborhoods impacted by natural and human-made disasters.

Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

God of all creation, you reveal your goodness through all that you have made, and you call on all inhabitants to be stewards of the skies, seas, seeds, and soil. Forgive us where we have neglected to care for the planet, and instill in us a sense of responsibility to protect fragile ecosystems and advocate for sustainable practices. Grant safety to those tasked with tending fields and orchards.

Merciful God,

**receive our prayer**

God of justice, you desire peace to reign throughout all levels of government, and you raise up advocates to amplify the voices of the downtrodden and silenced. Protect immigrant families and asylum seekers incarcerated in detention centers on Pennsylvania soil, and rectify injustices preventing neighborhood recovery in Eastwick and throughout all communities.

Merciful God,

**receive our prayer**

God of healing, you accompany all who suffer. Console those who are afraid, protect those who are persecuted, soothe those who have experienced trauma or loss, bring healing to all who suffer in mind, body or spirit, and comfort the mourning *(especially)*. Shield those impacted by climate change, and provide for those who are without food or housing.

Merciful God,

**receive our prayer**

God of love, you have brought us together this day to pray and praise, to lament and learn, to give thanks and to grow in faith. Guide the work of the gospel through United Lutheran Seminary, congregations and synods, and all ministers locally and globally. Unite all the faithful in the work that you have called us to do.

Merciful God,

**receive our prayer**

God of the ancestors, you challenge us to live as faithful people by the example of those who have come before us. Inspire us by their witness, especially the native stewards of Mother Earth, to commit to the well-being of all creation, until that day when we gather with the saints at the river that flows from the throne of God.

Merciful God,

**receive our prayer**

Into your wide embrace, O God, we place all our prayers, spoken and unspoken, trusting that you will receive them into your heart of mercy, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior.

**Amen.**

***The Lord’s Prayer - New Zealand Book of Common Prayer***

**Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,**

**Source of all that is and that shall be,**

**Father and Mother of us all,**

**Loving God, in whom is heaven:**

**The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!**

**The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!**

**Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!**

**Your commonwealth of peace and freedom**

**sustain our hope and come on earth.**

**With the bread we need for today, feed us.**

**In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.**

**In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.**

**From trials too great to endure, spare us.**

**From the grip of all that is evil, free us.**

**For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,**

**now and for ever.**

**Amen.**