

****Hymn of Praise:** I Am a Child of God MV 157
Those going to Sunday School will leave after the first verse

Prayer for Transformation and New Life:

We come in prayer burdened with our unhappy business,
all the deeds done under the sun that we would rather not
remember,
the sound of sin in our world.

**Explosions of gunfire, bombs, and rockets, the cries of the
hungry,
our own hurtful words hurled at those we love.**

Hearer of all, you know too clearly the sorrows of our world!
**Forgive us our sins, and help us right the wrongs we've
done.**

Give us words of repentance to share with those we've
wronged,
courage to stand up for the voiceless and resounding love for
the lowest and the least.

**Tune our ears to your voice, so that always and
everywhere we might hear your song of peace.**

(a time of silent prayer)

Words of Assurance:

Exploring

Words from Our Bible:

Joel 2:23-32

Psalms 65 pp.782-783

Luke 18:9-14

One: In this is the word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God

****Hymn of Reflection:** God of Still Waiting MV 20

Reflection:

Special Music: Amazing Grace VU 266

Responding

Presentation and Dedication of our Gifts

Sung Response: What Can I Do? MV 191

**What can I do? What can I bring?
What can I say? What can I sing?
I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer.
I'll bring my love. I'll do my share.**

Blessing the Gifts: (together)

**Accept these humble gifts we pray
and in our hearts forever stay.
With these gifts may You bring peace
that suffering, want, and war may cease. Amen.**

Prayers of Our Community:

Sung Response: Lord Listen to Your Children VU 400

**Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us power, send us grace!**

****Closing Hymn:** One More Step Along the World I Go VU 639

Commissioning and Sharing the Light:

****Choral Amen:** Sent Out in Jesus Name MV 212

**Sent out in Jesus' name,
our hands are ready now
to make the world the place
in which the kingdom comes. (2x)**

Postlude: Let There Be Peace

Today's service prayers are adapted from those written by Carol Penner, a
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