



**do not come seeming to be more than we are. We come to offer these words, these actions, and ourselves, trusting that you hold in your hands our faith, our promises, and our lives. Amen.**

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

### **Romans 7:15-25a**

I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

### **Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30**

[Jesus said:] "But to what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the market-places and calling to one another,

'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;  
we wailed, and you did not mourn.'

"For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon'; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax-collectors and sinners!' Yet wisdom is indicated by her deeds."

At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

MEDITATION "Of Rest and Yokes - Rev. Dr. Deborah M. Jenks

## SHARING

### A TIME OF PRAYER

Sharing of Joys & Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (Debts)

## THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING OF COMMUNION

SONG OF THANKSGIVING

“My Heart is Overflowing” (Song of Hannah)  
*(Miriam Therese Winter, 1993)*

My heart is overflowing with gladness and with praise.  
 The God who guards my going gives meaning to my days.  
 Holy the Rock of Ages known in word and deed,  
 Giving the victory, fulfilling every need.

The living God has spoken. Earth answers with a song.  
 Weapons of war are broken, the weak are feeling strong.  
 See, we no longer hunger, crying out for bread.  
 Our God restores to life and raises us from the dead.

All who are poor and lowly will have a heavenly home.  
 The humble and the holy shall surely know shalom.  
 God lifts the needy from the ashes of despair,  
 Favors the outcast and the downtrodden everywhere.

The power of compassion can turn the world around.  
 The firm in faith will fashion gardens from the barren ground.  
 Echoes of joy are found resounding from the tomb.  
 Cheerful the childless woman: life stirs in her womb.

The One who once created and now sustains the earth,  
 Boldly anticipated we too would bring to birth.  
 Love conquers evil, setting all the captives free.  
 Praise God for life begetting life for all eternity.

BLESSING & SENDING

SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

Vocalists for “My Heart is Overflowing”: Hunt Gressett, Gina Grogean, Bill MacDowell, John Merrifield, Joy Avery Webb.  
 Piano: Ann Boudreaux

