

# NORTHWEST WOMEN'S RETREAT

Skamania Lodge, Stevenson, WA

November 7-9, 2025

Theme: Joy!

## WORSHIP

### FRIDAY

**8:15-8:30**      **Compline**      *Daily Prayer for All Seasons, pp. 152-154*

**Opening**      As a loving mother comforts her child,  
**so I will comfort you.**

**Prayer**      ...Through Jesus, our faithful Savior. **Amen.**

**Song of Praise**      *Re-Wild My Soul*      *Heather Houston*

*Oh river, re-wild my soul, help me let go of control  
Show my heart how to flow with ease again  
I am ready, take me in.*

**Scripture**      *Song of Solomon 2:10-13*

**Meditation**      The measure of love is to love without measure. *Attributed to Augustine*  
  
*What "measure" will we release in order to embrace God's love this hour?*

**Prayers**      The cares of our hearts  
**We entrust to you, O God.**  
The needs of your Church  
**We entrust to you, O God.**  
The wounds of the world  
**We entrust to you, O God.**  
The hopes we carry  
**We entrust to you, O God.**  
The deep desire for peace  
**We entrust to you, O God.**

*Here, the people may add particular intercessions or thanksgivings.*

With all our lives and all our holy longings

**We praise you and trust your love for us,  
O Lover of our souls. Amen.**

### **Lord's Prayer**

*New Zealand Prayer Book*

**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 forever.  
AMEN.**

**Prayer**      ...Then in your mercy, grant us a safe lodging, and a holy rest, and peace at the last.  
**Amen.**

**Closing**      As a loving mother comforts her child,  
**so I will comfort you.**

**Closing Song**      *Power of Your Love*    Geoff Bullock, CCLI #917491

*Lord, I come to You, let my heart be changed, renewed  
Flowing from the grace, that I found in You  
And Lord I've come to know the weaknesses I see in me  
Will be stripped away by the power of Your love.*

*CHORUS      Hold me close, let Your love surround me  
Bring me near, draw me to Your side  
And as I wait, I'll rise up like the eagle  
And I will soar with You, Your Spirit leads me on  
In the power of Your love.*

*Lord unveil my eyes, let me see You face to face  
The knowledge of Your love, as You live in me  
Lord renew my mind, as Your will unfolds in my life  
In living every day, by the power of Your love. CHORUS*

## SATURDAY

**7:15-7:45 pm          Contemplative Prayer Service**

*Contemplative music as people gather.*

*The service begins with low lighting. All stand, and the Officiant greets the people with these words.*

Officiant:     Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

People:        **Thanks be to God.**

Scripture      *Matthew 5:14-16*

*The Officiant then says the Prayer for Light, first saying*

Let us pray.

God of love, we give you thanks for surrounding us, as daylight fades, with the brightness of the vesper light; and we implore you of your great mercy that, as you enfold us with the radiance of this light, so you would shine into our hearts the brightness of your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The candles at the Altar are now lighted, as are other candles, lamps, and lights.*

Leader 1:            I will light a light  
                         in the name of the Maker,  
                         who lit the world  
                         and breathed the breath of life for me.

**People (sung):      *You, O Lord, are a shield about me, you're my glory,  
                                 You're the lifter of my head.***

Leader 2:            I will light a light  
                         in the name of the Son,  
                         who saved the world  
                         and stretched out his hand to me.

**People (sung):      *You, O Lord, are a shield about me, you're my glory,  
                                 You're the lifter of my head.***

Leader 3:            I will light a light  
                         in the name of the Spirit,  
                         who encompasses the world

and blessed my soul with yearning.

**People (sung):**     ***You, O Lord, are a shield about me, you're my glory,  
You're the lifter of my head.  
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, you're the lifter of my head  
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, you're the lifter of my head***  
*A Shield About Me by Charles Williams and Donn Thomas; CCLI #14882*

**People:**             **We will light three lights  
for the Trinity of Love:  
God above us.  
God beside us.  
God beneath us;  
The beginning,  
the end,  
the everlasting One.**

*Evening liturgy C, A Wee Worship Book, pp. 63-64*

## Reflection

Throughout the day, you were invited to write your griefs and losses on the blue paper and bring them to the basket on the altar. The yellow paper was for you to write down the unexpected gifts of these recent seasons – the joys to share and place in the basket.

We will read these griefs and joys anonymously at the close of our reflection time.

During this time, you are welcome to participate in the prayer stations that are around the space or meditate quietly until we gather back together for the litany of griefs and joys. Prayer stations are offered by some of our workshop leaders: Leslie Soken, Elise Tickner, and April Brenneman.

***Let There Be Peace on Earth***     *Sy Miller and Jill Jackson, CCLI #93690*  
*Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me*  
*Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be*  
*With God our creator, children all are we*  
*Let us walk with each other, in perfect harmony*

*Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now*  
*With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow*  
*To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally*  
*Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.*

## Intercessions of Grievs and Joys

*Officiant:* For these griefs and losses we now pray and respond: Out of the depths have I called to you, O God.

**People:**        **O God, hear my voice.**

*Intercessor 1: Laments from the blue papers are read.*

*Officiant:*        Out of the depths have I called to you, O God.

**O God, hear my voice.**

*Litany continues until all laments are read.*

*Officiant:* God of comfort, we are weary and grieved. We were anticipating a world that was familiar, milestones passing as they always had, but these ways of life ended and did not happen at all. We are saddened and we are angry. We weep and we mourn. Weep with us, God, Creator of Life, for the griefs and losses we still hold. **Amen.**

*~Adapted from a Prayer by Rabbi Sandy Eisenberg Sasso, *Lifecycles Vol. 1: Jewish Women on Life Passages and Personal Milestones*, 1994.*

## Unexpected Gifts

*Officiant:*        For these unexpected gifts and joys we now pray and respond: Holy One, help us to know your never-failing care.

**People:**        **God of Love, save us and help us.**

*Intercessor 1: Unexpected gifts from the yellow papers are read.*

Holy One, help us to know your never-failing care.

**God of Love, save us and help us.**

*Litany continues until all unexpected joys are read.*

*Officiant:* O gracious God, we give you humble and hearty thanks that you have preserved us through the pain and anxiety of these uncertain times. We offer our praises and thanksgivings for your presence and unexpected gifts and joys. Grant, that by your help, we may live faithfully according to your will in this life and be instruments of your peace and hope in our world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## Call and Response

Make your ways known upon earth, O God,  
**Your saving power among all peoples.**

Renew your Church in holiness,  
**And help us to serve you with joy.**

Guide the leaders of this and every nation,  
**That justice may prevail throughout the world.**

Let not the needy, O God, be forgotten,  
**Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

Make us instruments of your peace,  
**And let your glory be over all the earth.**

Officiant: ...through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

#### Closing Responses

Officiant: Bless to us, O God,

People: **The moon that is above us,  
the earth that is beneath us,  
the friends who are around us,  
your image deep within us,  
the rest which is before us.  
Amen.**

Evening liturgy D, *A Wee Worship Book*, p. 73

As the earth keeps turning, hurtling through space, and night falls and day breaks from land to land, let us remember people—walking, sleeping, being born, and dying—one world, one humanity.

Let us go from here in peace. **Amen.**

**Closing Song**      *I Will Change Your Name*      D.J. Butler, CCLI #145139

I will change your name, You shall no longer be called  
Wounded, outcast, lonely or afraid.  
I will change your name, Your new name shall be  
Confidence, joyfulness, overcoming one,  
Faithfulness, friend of God, one who seeks my face.

## SUNDAY

### Morning

### Worship Service with Communion

#### Call to Worship

Presider: Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People: **And blessed be God's kindom, now and for ever. Amen.**

#### Song of Praise

#### **Blessed Be Your Name**

*Matt Redman and Beth Redman, CCLI # 3798438*

*Blessed be your name in the land that is plentiful,  
Where your streams of abundance flow, blessed be your name.  
Blessed be your name, when I'm found in the desert place,  
Though I walk through the wilderness, blessed be your name.*

*CHORUS: Every blessing you pour out I'll turn back to praise  
When the darkness closes in, Lord, still I will say,  
Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be your name.  
Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be your glorious name.*

*Blessed be your name when the sun's shining down on me,  
When the world's "all as it should be", blessed be your name.  
Blessed be your name, on the road marked with suffering,  
Though there's pain in the offering, blessed be your name. CHORUS*

#### Prayer of the Day

Presider: God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray.

...through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People: **Amen.**

#### The Holy Gospel

John 15:9-11

#### Homily

*Rev. Andrea Cano*

#### Choral Anthem

#### **"Re-Wild My Soul"**

*Heather Houston*

#### Prayers of the People

*Adapted from Women's Uncommon Prayer*

*The Leader and People pray responsively*



In peace, we pray to you, Holy God.

*Silence*

Open our lips, O Spirit, that we may proclaim love's truth and call for justice in our communities and in the world.

**Spirit, open our lips.**

Open our minds, O Creator, that we might dream of a Church reconciled, knowing your love so abundantly it bursts with a passion for ministry, a desire to give, and seeks to give back.

**Creator, open our minds.**

Open our hearts, O Giver of Gifts, to be transformed by compassion, serving others with humility, integrity, and urgency.

**Giver of Gifts, open our hearts.**

Open our eyes, O Sanctifier of Life, to the hurts and needs of others, teaching us to see where we are needed and how our abilities and resources can be used for good.

**Sanctifier of Life, open our eyes.**

Open our hands, O Spirit, to be your instruments of gospel witness, helping us to work with passion, serve without recognition, and proclaim justice, love, and kindness in your name.

**Spirit, open our hands.**

Open our memories, O Creator of All, as we tenderly remember those who have asked for our prayers, and those known to you alone.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions*

Creator of All,

**open our memories.**

We thank you, God of joy, for all the blessings of this life.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own thanksgivings*

We will delight in you, O God our Creator;

**And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions*

Tender One, let your loving-kindness be upon them;  
**Who put their trust in you.**

O God, Author of our lives, your love is free, your compassion unconditional, and your mercy infinite. Grant that we may know and trust these gifts cultivating kindness and generosity of spirit in our lives. **Amen.**

Presider: We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.  
*Silence may be kept.*

*Presider and People*

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful God;  
in your compassion forgive us our sins,  
known and unknown,  
things done and left undone;  
and so uphold us by your Spirit  
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,  
to the honor and glory of your Name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Presider: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

**Choral Anthem**      “There is Room for All”      Bruce Harding, CCLI #7079250

The Great Thanksgiving

*Please stand and gather around the altar as you are able.*

Presider: God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Lift up your hearts

People: **We lift them to God.**

Presider: Let us give thanks to God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Presider: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.

*The Presider continues with Eucharistic Prayer 3 from Enriching Our Worship 1:*

...And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

**Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You**      *Ludwig van Beethoven, Henry Van Dyke, CCLI #25321*

*Joyful, joyful, we adore you, God of glory, God of love  
Hearts unfold like flowers before you, opening to the sun above  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the storms of doubt away  
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.*

*You are giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blessed  
Well-spring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest  
Loving spirit, Father, Mother, all who love belong to you  
Teach us how to love each other, by that love our joy renew.*

*Mortals, join the mighty chorus which the morning stars began  
Boundless love is reigning o'er us, reconciling race and clan  
Ever singing, move we forward, faithful in the midst of strife  
Joyful music leads us onward in the triumph song of life.*

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent...

...And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

**Dying, you destroyed our death.  
Rising, you restored our life.  
Christ Jesus, come in glory!**

Send your Holy Spirit upon us...

...Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

**Blessed are you now and for ever. AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

Presider: As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

All:            **Creator God in heaven, Holy is Your name, Your Kindom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Yours is the Kindom, the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

Presider:      Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Invitation to Communion

Presider: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*Please come forward to receive communion. There will be several stations around the room. Please go to the station that is closest to you. If you wish to receive a blessing instead, please cross your arms over your chest and the minister will give you a blessing. All are welcome at Christ's table.*

Prayer Following Communion

*Attributed to Dawna Markova*

Presider: Let us pray.

All: **May we learn to open in love,  
so all the doors and windows of our bodies  
swing wide on their rusty hinges.  
May we learn to give ourselves with both hands,  
to lift each other on our shoulders,  
to carry one another along.  
May holiness move in us  
so we pay attention to its small voice  
and honor its light in each other. Amen.**

Blessing

**Closing Hymn**      *Hear Our Praises*      Reuben Morgan, CCLI #2543402

*May our homes be filled with dancing, may our streets be filled with joy  
May injustice bow to Jesus, as the people turn and pray*

*CHORUS: From the mountain --- to the valley  
Hear our praises --- rise to you  
From the heavens --- to the nations  
Hear our singing --- fill the air.*

*May our light shine in the darkness, as we walk before the cross  
May your glory fill the whole earth, as the water o'er the seas.*

*CHORUS – Hallelujahs – CHORUS*