Knox Presbyterian Church of LA

Zeal |Thanksgiving

Reign of Christ | Caregivers

Words to Ponder: "Missionary zeal does not grow out of intellectual beliefs, nor out of theological arguments, but out of love. If I do not love someone, I am not moved to help them by proofs that they are in need; if I do love them, I wait for no proof of a special need to urge me to help them." Roland Allen

Gathering Music "Oh Give thanks Unto the Lord" Music Ministry

Words of Welcome | +Passing the Peace

Rev. Ann Hayman

**Call to Worship** (based on Revelation 1:5-6)

**Cicely Bingener** 

What brings us together in this place?

To worship Christ, who loves us,

who freed us from our sins by his blood

and who made us a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father.

To him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Let's prepare our hearts and minds to worship Jesus Christ, our king.

+Opening Hymn "O Worship the King"

PH #476

Call to Confession (based on Hebrews 4:15-16)

**Cicely Bingener** 

#### **Unison Prayer of Confession**

O Jesus, however much we call you king, we fail to follow your call to us. We succumb to the political temptations of this temporary world, seeking power and security while you call us to service and hospitality, consuming your creation while you call us to care for it, hating our neighbors, who you call us to love. In our failure to claim you, we identify more with the nations on our passports than with your kingdom. We pray that you reclaim us as your people, forgive us as your children, and continue to be our Savior and our hope for salvation. Amen.

Words of Assurance (based on Psalm 93:5, Revelation 1:5) Cicely Bingener

Hear the good news:

Jesus Christ loves us and has set us free from our sins.

In the name of Jesus Christ, and by the certainty of God's decree,

Know that we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God!

God has poured out love upon us,

and we have received forgiveness for our sins.

We can now live in peace!

May mercy, peace, and love be yours in abundance.

Children's Message "King Me!" Rev. Ann Hayman

Anthem "Give Thanks" Music Ministry

Expression Dr. Saundra Sparling

Prayer for Illumination Cicely Bingener

Scripture: Revelation 1:4-8 Cicely Bingener

Sermon "The Truth, the Whole Truth" Rev. Ann Hayman John 18:33-38

#### Words of Faith: A Litany of Prayer for Those Who Offer Care\*

Loving God, hear us now in our petition for all those who offer care to their loved ones: For the woman whose husband of nearly sixty years has dementia. She is tired and she is

fearful that the husband she has lost emotionally and mentally will soon be gone physically some night, if she doesn't "keep watch."

# Lord in your mercy, may we know that your love enfolds those who offer care and their loved ones.

For the young man who never dreamed that he would be raising small children on his own, while he struggles with caring for his wife whose brain is damaged from a tragic car accident.

# Lord in your mercy, may we know that your love enfolds those who offer care and their loved ones.

For the man whose partner of nearly forty years has continual strokes and has lost the ability to converse. Loneliness and loss of relationship engulfs him daily as he cares for his loved one.

# Lord in your mercy, may we know that your love enfolds those who offer care and their loved ones.

For the daughter who wonders where God is when she witnesses her mother's unrelenting pain from cancer. Each month a new tumor seems to appear just as regularly as the medical bills she can no longer pay.

#### Lord in your mercy, may we know that your love enfolds those who offer care and their loved ones.

Lord, we know that those who offer care have opportunities for rich and positive experiences with their loved ones. At the same time, we know that they face daunting challenges. Lord, we lift to you those caregivers named in our hearts and the hundreds of thousands of caregivers whose names we don't know. We lift to you their circumstances that are unknowable to anyone but you.

We lift them to you for the pouring out of your gifts of strength, guidance, and serenity. We pray for respite from anger, sadness, guilt and all other very human emotions that they experience. We are grateful for these special people who are willing to care for loved ones.

We know it is hard work. We pray for their ability to meet their deepest and truest selves in the midst of the pain and suffering. We pray that they may know that not only are you close to them, but that their faith community stands ready to support them through whatever lies ahead.

Lord, those who offer care are people who give and give and tend to forget about their own needs of body, mind and spirit. Help them remember that in order to be healthy, they must learn to receive as well as to give care. Help them to be receptive to the love that their brothers and sisters in Christ have for them. May we remember that as your children, we are all called to help each other, especially in times such as these. Thank you for the opportunity to be the servant hands of our Lord, Jesus Christ, in the world today. In Christ's healing name we pray. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Rev. Ann Hayman

The Offering

**Call to Giving** (based on Revelation 1:8)

**Cicely Bingener** 

Offertory

"I Just Wanna Praise You"

**Music Ministry** 

+Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**Prayer of Dedication** 

**Cicely Bingener** 

**Announcements** 

**Cicely Bingener** 

**Closing Hymn** 

"Now Thank We All Our God"

PH#555

**Benediction** 

Rev. Ann Hayman

**Postlude** 

"God Be With You"

Michael Turner, Piano

<sup>\*</sup>By Jane Givens, RN, FCN, MAT; Health Ministry Coordinator, First Presbyterian Church, Kalamazoo, MI