

8-20-14 Search Committee of Trinity Episcopal Church

Silence

Opening Prayer

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Reflection

"Live the questions," urges Rainer Maria Rilke. "Perhaps then, someday far in the future, you will gradually, without even noticing it, live your way into the answer."

How can we hear God's call? What could hearing it mean as we live day to day? How can we help each other hear God's voice and follow where God leads? In the end...answers emerge within our hearts as we live the questions. Understanding that God calls us to ministry, preparing our hearts and minds to discern God's call, and meeting with others for insight and support helps us to live these questions. Thus we gain hearts to listen and respond to God's call." Suzanne G. Farnham, et al. Listening Hearts

When our work is done: At the Close of Day

Psalm 134

Behold now, bless the LORD, all you servants of the LORD, * you that stand by night in the house of the LORD. Lift up your hands in the holy place and bless the LORD; * the LORD who made heaven and earth bless you out of Zion.

A Reading Lord, you are in the midst of us and we are called by your Name: Do not forsake us, O Lord our God. Jeremiah 14:9,22

The following may be said together

Lord, you now have set your servant free * to go in peace as you have promised; For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, * whom you have prepared for all the world to see; A Light to enlighten the nations, * and the glory of your people Israel.

Prayers for ourselves and others may follow. It is appropriate that prayers of thanksgiving for the blessings of the day, and penitence for our sins, be included.

The Lord's Prayer, traditional

O LORD, support us all the day long, until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then in thy mercy grant us a safe lodging, and a holy rest, and peace at the last. Amen.

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us. Amen.