

## **Worship materials**

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### **Psalm 46: "Be still and know that I am God..."**

#### Unison prayer

God of renewal, you invite us to rest and we say we are too busy. You command us to honor the Sabbath but we can't fit it in our schedule. You offer us peace and an opportunity to lay down our burdens, but we would rather shoulder them alone. Forgive us. Remind us that you sent a Savior into the world and that none of us is that person. We need your strength and wisdom. You invite us to "be still." Help us say yes to you so we may receive your life-giving presence. Amen.

#### Bidding prayer (responses may be spoken out loud or in the hearts of participants)

God, you are our refuge. We pray for those who are hiding and who feel hidden. Today we pray for...

God, you are our strength. We pray for those who feel weak and those who need encouragement. Today we pray for...

Mountains shake in the sea. We pray for everyone affected by natural disasters. Today we pray for...

Nations are in an uproar. We pray for those affected by war, violence, and by factors beyond their control. Today we pray for...

Faithful God, you promise to be with us. When we forget your promise or you feel far away, draw us back to your renewing love. Today we pray for ourselves and for those we carry in our hearts (pause for silent or spoken prayers).

We come before you and know that you are God. Thank you. Amen.

### **1 Corinthians 12: Diversity of gifts**

#### Litany

One: For the mosaics of our lives, patterns of people and experiences that enrich us, we give you thanks.

All: For bringing these different people, opinions, and backgrounds together to form your church, we thank you.

One: For calling us the Body of Christ, consisting of endless varieties of gifts and talents, we give you thanks.

All: Creator and creative God, open us to your spirit and weave us together to form a vision of your new life and hope.

### **I Kings 19: God's still, small voice**

#### Litany

One: In this noisy world, where do we hear God's voice?

All: With so much to do and so much demanding our attention, how do we listen for God?

One: God promises to be with us, to never leave us or forget us.

All: God's voice may not be the loudest, but it is the most faithful.

One: In the beauty of creation, in the comfort of a friend, we may recognize God.

All: In the power of music and the stillness of the night, God's loving voice may speak.

Unison Prayer

God of yesterday, today, and tomorrow, remind us that you do not ask us to be successful, but rather to be faithful. Help us remain true to your call to offer compassion, forgiveness, and healing. Even when our efforts seem in vain, help us not to be discouraged. Let us place our trust in you and dare to speak your life-changing words of truth and justice. In your holy name we pray. Amen.