

Full to the Brim

An expansive lent

WORDS FOR WORSHIP *for Lent - Easter {Year C}*

Written by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed

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ABOUT THIS LITURGY OUTLINE

- *Italicized lines are notes for worship leaders.*
- Unbolded lines are to be spoken by worship leaders and, when appropriate, printed in bulletins or projected on screens.
- **Bolded lines are to be spoken by the congregation and printed in bulletins or projected on screens.**

GENERAL LITURGY FOR THE WHOLE SEASON COMMUNION LITURGY

To be used or adapted as often as you celebrate the sacrament. See page 22 for Communion liturgy for Easter Sunday.

Invitation to the Table

Jesus has always been one to invite.

He said, "Drop your nets and follow me."

He said, "Let the little children come."

He said, "Stand up from your mat, you are healed."

Jesus has always been one to invite, and that has not changed.

So friends, you are invited to this Table. Each and every one of us—with our doubts, our fears, our scars, our joy, our dreams, our hopes, our questions—we are invited to God's table.

And here we will be met. Here we will be fed. Here we are given a taste of an expansive life that is full to the brim with love, overflowing with joy.

So come.

Not because you must, but because you can.

Come. You are invited. This Table is for you.

GENERAL LITURGY FOR THE WHOLE SEASON

COMMUNION LITURGY *(CONT.)*

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

God who knows us, we are amazed by you.

Your love never runs out, your hope never runs dry, your joy never gives up.

We wish that we could be more like you in that way.

In a world that loves scarcity, your abundance is shocking.

In a world that knows fear, your joy is compelling.

In a world that knows anxiety, your peace is captivating.

We long for these things.

So today we ask you—be with us on the hamster wheel.

Be with us when compassion fatigue rears her head.

Be with us when stress makes it hard to breathe.

Be with us when self-doubt pushes in close.

Be with us when exhaustion becomes constant or when loneliness becomes our primary language.

Be with us, and show us the way to the life you long for us.

Show us a life of expansive faith.

Show us a life of overflowing joy.

Show us a life of absorbing beauty.

Show us a life of engrossing purpose.

Show us a life that is as honest, and rich, and meaningful as the one Jesus led.

And until that expansive and holy day, we will continue to gather at this Table.

Until that day we will continue to look for you in our midst.

So pour out a double portion of yourself onto this bread and cup so that we might catch a glimpse of your goodness.

God, we are amazed by you.

Your love never runs out, so bring that never-ending love here.

Together we pray:

Our Father . . .

Continue with the Lord's Prayer in the language and wording most familiar to you.

SERIES BLESSING

As you leave this place,

may you be awestruck by the beauty of this world.

May you laugh, and may it be contagious.

May you overflow with love for those around you.

May you be effusive with hope and quick to point out joy.

And in all of your living, and breathing, and being,
may you find yourself full to the brim with God's Holy Spirit,
and may it change your life.

In the name of the Lover, the Beloved, and Love itself—
go in peace, full to the brim. Amen.



ASH WEDNESDAY

Full to the Brim { *With all that you are*

Call to Worship

“Even now, declares the Lord,
return to me with all your heart.” (Joel 2:12)

Roll up your sleeves.

Let down your guard.

Come in from the storm.

Make yourself at home.

Pull up to the table.

Release the tension in your jaw.

Take a deep breath.

Return to God

with all your heart.

May it be so.

Call to Confession

Lent can sometimes get a negative reputation. It's viewed as the season in our faith when we give things up, we prepare for the worst. However, I cannot help but imagine that God wants more for us than just six weeks of discipline or six weeks without chocolate. I cannot help but imagine that God wants a life for us so expansive that faith, joy, and hope flow over the edges. So let us confess, not because we have to suffer our way through Lent, but because the truth moves us one step closer to that expansive faith. Let us pray:

Prayer of Confession + Words of Forgiveness

Holy God, I confess: I don't return to you fully.

I share with you the pieces of my life that are convenient.

I put on different hats in different rooms.

I forget that I am called, invited, and loved with all that I am—
including my mess, my beauty, my faith, and my doubt.

Forgive me, and give me a heart that longs to return.

**Friend, God sees you. God hears you. God loves you. You are forgiven and claimed
with all that you are. Rest in that good news.**

Thanks be to God, amen.

Holy God, we confess: we don't return to you fully.

We share with you the pieces of our lives that are convenient.

We put on different hats in different rooms.

**We forget that we are called, invited, and loved with all that we are—
including our mess, our beauty, our faith, and our doubt.**

Forgive us, and give us hearts that long to return.

Friends, God sees you. God hears you. God loves you. You are forgiven and claimed
with all that you are. Rest in that good news.

Thanks be to God, amen.