

WORSHIPFUL & CONVERSATION & FELLOWSHIP

Welcome

“For the Healing of the Nations”

No. 428, *The United Methodist Hymnal* (1989)

Prayer

“For Our Country,” No. 429,
The United Methodist Hymnal (1989)

O God,
keep our whole country under your protection.
Wipe out sin from this land;
lift up from the depth of sorrow,
O Lord, our shining light.
Save us from deep grief and misfortune,
Lord of all nations.
Bless us with your wisdom,
so that the poor may not be oppressed
and the rich may not be oppressors.
Make this a nation having no ruler except God,
a nation having no authority but that of Love.
Amen.

Invitation to the Feast

including the Lord's Prayer (No. 895, *The United Methodist Hymnal*)

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come,
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.

Sharing at the Table

As we share in this feast, you are invited to share in response to the following questions:

How is it with you ?

*When have you felt close to God this week?
Have you felt far from God at all, and need en-
couragement?*

You can share with the whole group gathered here today via your phone or device (make sure to unmute yourself). You can also write your response in the chat.

Joel 3:1-21

Common English Bible

Truly, in those days and in that time, I will bring back to Judah and Jerusalem those who were sent away. ² I will gather all the nations, and I will bring them to the Jehoshaphat Valley. There I will enter into judgment with them in support of my people and my possession, Israel, which they have scattered among the nations. They have divided my land, ³ and have cast lots for my people. They have traded boys for prostitutes, and sold girls for wine, which they drank down. ⁴ What are you to me, Tyre and Sidon, and all the regions of Philistia? Are you paying me back for something? If you are paying me back, then in a flash I will turn your deeds back upon your own heads. ⁵ You have taken my silver and my gold, and have carried my rich treasures into your temples. ⁶ You have sold the people of Judah and Jerusalem to the Greeks, removing them far from their own border. ⁷ But now I am calling them from the places where you have sold them, and I will repay you for your deeds. ⁸ I will sell your sons and your daughters as a possession of the people of Judah, and they will sell them to the Sabeans, to a nation far away; for the LORD has spoken.

⁹ Announce this among the nations:

Prepare a holy war,
wake up the warriors;
let all the soldiers draw near,
let them come up!

¹⁰ Beat the iron tips of your plows into swords
and your pruning tools into spears;
let the weakling say, “I am mighty.”

¹¹ Come quickly,
all you surrounding nations;
gather yourselves there;
bring your mighty ones, LORD.

- ¹² Let the nations prepare themselves,
and come up to the Jehoshaphat Valley;
for there I will sit to judge
all the surrounding nations.
- ¹³ Cut with the sickle,
for the harvest is ripe.
Go and crush grapes,
for the winepress is full.
The jars overflow with wine,
for their wickedness is great.
- ¹⁴ Crowd after crowd fills the valley of judgment,
for the day of the LORD is near
in the valley of judgment.
- ¹⁵ The sun and the moon are darkened;
the stars have ceased shining.
- ¹⁶ The LORD roars from Zion,
and utters his voice from Jerusalem;
the heavens and the earth quake.
But the LORD is a refuge for his people,
a shelter for the people of Israel.
- ¹⁷ So you will know that I am the LORD your God,
settle down in Zion, my holy mountain.
Jerusalem will be holy,
and never again will strangers pass through
it.
- ¹⁸ In that day
the mountains will drip sweet wine,
the hills will flow with milk,
and all the streambeds of Judah
will flow with water;
a spring will come forth from the LORD's
house
and water the Shittim Valley.
- ¹⁹ Egypt will become desolate
and Edom a desolate wilderness.
This is because of the violence done to the peo-
ple of Judah,
in whose land they have shed innocent
blood.
- ²⁰ But Judah will be inhabited forever,
and Jerusalem for all generations.
- ²¹ I will forgive their bloodguilt,
which I had not forgiven.
I will act on their account;
I will not pardon the guilty.

The LORD dwells in Zion.

Finding a New Normal: Judgment and Salvation

Pastor Jacob

Pastoral Prayer

Sending Forth