

WEB Gratitude/Thanksgiving Service Outline - **DRAFT**

November 23, 2025

- 4-5:30 PM Gathering time with intergenerational/family friendly gratitude project stations, snacks, Mocktail bar and festive fun
- 5:30 PM Ecumenical worship with lots of music
- 6:15 PM Pie/Dessert social

Order of Worship

Prelude

Peace Welcome - Rev. Karen Locken

Opening Song: All Are Welcome #641

Prayer Litany

Leader: Let us give thanks this moment

All: for the sturdy fact of God's continuing love

Leader: for mercies which go before us and follow after us,

All: for those gifts which God so graciously gives.

Leader: Let us give thanks for memory and expectation

All: for the good that we have known and know today in Jesus Christ,

Leader: For the Spirit's brooding presence in our nights and in our days.

All: Let us give thanks for pleasures which comfort

Leader: and pains which force our growth and keep us at the Shepherd's side.

All: For deep meanings revealed

Leader: and mysteries mercifully concealed,

All: for the image of God within us,

Leader: the capacity to inquire and adore.

All: Let us give thanks for one another,

Leader: for just being together,

All: for differences which complement and complete

Leader: for gifts which enrich and disagreements which challenge,

All: for our oneness in Christ.

Leader: Let us give thanks for melody and mirth, for rhythm and beat,

All: for the repeated and the common,

Leader: for the ever-unfolding, and for senses with which to respond.

All: And let us give thanks for Someone to thank. Amen.

Song: Children/Youth Choir

WEB Welcome and Video/Report by Jennifer Cuccia, President of the WEB Board

Song: Ecumenical Adult Choir "I Will Give Thanks" by Joseph Martin

Readings: Philippians, 4:4-7, Psalm 100, Luke 10:25-37 (all scripture will be printed out)

Sermon - Rev. Karen Locken and/or Rev. Doug Locken

Song: Praise to You O Great Creator

Gathering of Offering/Gifts for WEB

Song: Ecumenical Handbell Choir

Prayers of the Community

Lord, we give thanks for our community—for its ecumenical nature, for great educational opportunities for our children and adolescents, for the volunteers who keep us safe from fire and rescue us when we have fallen, for the police officers that patrol our village and everyone who works to make this a safe community for us all. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Holy God, our world is hurting. In every corner there is pain and suffering, heartache and sorrow. Bring healing and wholeness. Bring justice and peace. Bring unity and hopefulness. We pray for our nation's President, for our state's Governor, for the leaders of the Village of Waunakee, for our school board, and for the leaders of WEB and other helping organizations in our community. Guide them forward. Help them lead with love. Help them value all of humanity. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Alright Lord, we give thanks for the service men and women who protect our country. Keep them safe. Protect their well being. Be with their families—the spouses and children and parents who support them. Give them the spirit of wisdom and the promise of peace. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God of us all, in our country, even in our county—there are people wandering alone in the darkness this night—homeless folks with hungry bellies. There are so many reasons they are without an address. Help them each find a safe, warm place to be and food enough to sustain them to tomorrow. Move us to serve the people in our village who are in need of food and shelter. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God of hope, we pray for all who have lost loved ones this year and are facing this holiday season with a chair they never wanted to have empty. For all who have lost loved ones...loved ones whose absence is still hurting deeply within us, tend the grief. Bring healing to meet us in the hurting. Grace us with the gentle memories of what was...that made what is beautiful. Bless them with friends and family who can hold them tightly and speak your love gently. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

For all these things we have named—and for all the things we cannot speak, please care for us—wherever you see that love and hope are needed. Let everyone gathered here know the depth of your love and mercy. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Song: Ecumenical Adult Choir: "A Closing Prayer" by Don Besig

Gratitude Blessing/Benediction

Closing Song Praise and Thanksgiving #689

Pie/Dessert Social to follow