

*The Ministry of Reconciliation*



*"Let justice roll down like waters,  
and righteousness like an ever flowing stream."  
Amos 5:24*

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Voice of the Faithful  
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So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

### **Period of Silence**

### **Shared Reflection**

- What do you hear Christ saying to us in his word?



### **Closing**

**Leader:**

**O God of perfect love, you surprise us with new life by offering us the possibility of a world restored to wholeness. Where we have fractured one another, forgive us. Where we have forgotten one another, remind us. Where we have feared one another, free us. Bring us to the abundance of life, the fullness of justice, and the richness of peace you promise through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**All:**

**Let justice roll down like waters,  
and righteousness like an ever flowing stream. Amen**

**Meditation Music "There is a Wideness in God's Mercy"**

**Opening Prayer**

**Leader:**

**Our hope is in God, who comes with strength and gentleness to order things aright; in Jesus the Christ, who is appointed to judge all things; and in the Spirit, who shows us the way to health and wholeness.**

**All: Amen.**

**Leader: May the peace of the Lord always be with you.**

**All: And also with you.**

**Leader:**

**Vulnerable God, you challenge the powers that rule this world through the needy, the compassionate, and those who are filled with longing. Make us hunger and thirst to see right prevail and single-minded in seeking peace; that we may see your face and be satisfied in you, through Jesus Christ.**

**All: Amen.**

**Scripture Reading                      2 Corinthians 5:11-21**

**Since, then, we know what it is to fear the Lord, we try to persuade others. What we are is plain to God, and I hope it is also plain to your conscience. We are not trying to commend ourselves to you again, but are giving you an opportunity to take pride in us, so that you can answer those who take pride in what is seen rather than in what is in the heart. If we are "out of our mind," as some say, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.**

*Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi*

*Lord,*

*Make me an instrument of your peace;*

*Where there is hatred, let me sow love;*

*Where there is injury, pardon;*

*Where there is doubt, faith;*

*Where there is despair, hope;*

*Where there is darkness, light;*

*Where there is sadness, joy.*

*Amen.*

