



A Good Measure

Service Prayers for the Seventh Sunday after Epiphany
February 24, 2019

CALL TO WORSHIP

Where do we find you, Holy One, and how do we follow?

Find me at your table, **share your food**
Find me in your resources, **share your riches**
Find me in your power, **share your mercy**
Find me in your pain, **share your forgiveness**
Find me in your generosity, **share all, and expect nothing in return**

In community, **seek my holiness,**
shown in love, in generosity, in joy
In the world, **share my desire:**
justice, mercy, peace for all.

INVOCATION

Holy One, you are deep within our world,
calling us to join you in creating
abundant life for all.
Open our hearts to recognize you
Free us to trust your call and follow;
Enable us to repent, and forgive,
and join in your work to make "all things new".
In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen**

CALL TO CONFESSION

Holy One, your call is deceptively simple:
"Do to others as you would have them do to you"
And yet we cling to self-serving ways

which separate us from your beloved creation:

You call us to turn our lives around,
to risk repentance and learn forgiveness,
to work with patience and diligence to prepare the way for your Reign,
but we get discouraged and give up too soon.

Lord, Have mercy.

You call us to be full of joyful confidence
to create community where all have enough for abundant life,
but we burden ourselves with anxiety and fear.

Christ, have mercy.

You call us to speak out in the presence of injustice,
but too often we do not challenge words and actions rooted in hate:

Holy One, have mercy

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Our God is good, and generous, and loving:

Trust in Jesus' promise:

"Give, and it will be given to you.

A good measure, pressed down,
shaken together, running over,
will be put into your lap;

for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

PASSING THE PEACE

INVITATION TO SHARE OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

When we give our tithes and offerings,
we are witnesses to the transforming love of God in Christ.
I invite you to give as generously as you have received.

BLESSING OF THE GIFTS

Accept these gifts, we humbly pray, O God.
Let them give you honor and glory as we serve the needs of your people.
And let the called and redeemed of God say, **Amen**

BENEDICTION

Send us into the world, O Holy One,

Ready to witness to your generosity and forgiveness
Ready to be recognized as those who follow your Way
Ready to shape a world of justice, peace and joy.

A Good Measure, Service Prayers for the Seventh Sunday of Epiphany, was written by the Rev. Susan A. Blain, Minister for Worship and Gospel Arts, Justice and Local Church Ministries.



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