Christians and Empire: How then shall we live?
Church Retreat at Friedenswald - 10/13/24

Gathering
VT 182 I Sing the Mighty Power of God
Call to worship
Welcome
VT 205 Light Dawns on a Weary World
Peace Lamp
  L: Let justice roll down like a river
  P: And goodness like an ever flowing stream.

Confessing and Offering
Confession - adapted from Walter Brueggemann

O God who feeds and nourishes,
  and who satisfies the desire of every living thing,
We confess that while you promise to provide us with enough,
  we scramble for more.
After we have filled our baskets with manna, we seek a surplus–
  enough education to plan ahead, enough power to protect our
  supply, enough of the earth's resources to assure that protection.
We hear you call us to share bread and feed the hungry.
But we mostly keep our bread to ourselves,
  our neighbors, and our friends.
We do not often remember to break vicious cycles of hostility
  by free bread, free water, free wine, and free milk.
Giver of all good gifts we have to enjoy and to share,
  lead us to repent of our fearful accumulation,
Turn us toward outrageous generosity,
  to that giving and sharing which assures abundance for all.

Offering
  Offering Hymn VT 594 Over My Head

Telling God's Story
Children's time
  VT 63 Like a Rock
  Following children's time, children 4 and under are dismissed with
  their childcare providers to the playground. K-thru-5 children are
  invited to join Carla Gull for a children's activity outdoors.

Scripture - Isaiah 61:1-3
        L: The stories of God for the people of God
        P: Thanks be to God
Sermon
  VT 828 There's a Wild Hope in the Wind

Sharing our Stories
Sermon response/Sharing from our lives
Pastoral Prayer

Sending
Introduction of Visitors
Announcements
VT 849 We, Your People, Sing Your Praises
Benediction

Thanks to: *Worship Leader*: Scott Coulter; *Song Leader*:
Bev Lapp; *Children's Time*: Tristan Beechy-King; *Sermon*:
Gwen Gustafson-Zook; *Pastoral sharing and prayer*:
Moriah Hurst; *Tech Crew*: Glenn Gilbert