

**A Service of Thanksgiving and Remembrance  
on the Anniversary of Hurricane Andrew August 24, 1993  
The Time of Giving Thanks**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us worship God. light 1st candle

The Doxology

The Call to Worship

Psalm 46: 1-7 light 2nd candle

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.  
Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,  
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; though its waters roar  
and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.  
God is in the midst of us: we shall not be moved;  
God will help us when the morning dawns.  
The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter;  
God utters his voice, the earth melts.  
The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

\*The Hymn #91 A Mighty Fortress is Our God

\*The Scripture Psalm 90 light 3rd candle

Lord, you have been our refuge in all generations.  
Before the mountains were born, or earth and universe brought  
forth, from eternity to eternity You are God.  
For a thousand years in Your sight are but as/yesterday when it is past, or as a watch in the night.  
You sweep us away; we are like a dream at daybreak; we come and go like grass which in the  
morning shoots up, renewed, and in the evening fades and withers.  
The number of our years may be many or few; yet vain toil fills their span,  
for it is soon ended, and we fly away. So teach us to number our days  
that we may grow wise in heart.  
Let your servants understand Your ways, and your children see your glory..  
Let the beauty of our Eternal God be with us, and may our work have lasting value.  
O let the work of our hands be enduring!

### Prayer Meditation

O God of life, amid the ceaseless tides of change which sweep away the generations,  
Your living spirit remains to comfort us and give us hope.  
Around us is life and death, decay and renewal; the flowing rhythm that all things obey.

Our life is a dance to a song we cannot hear. Its melody courses through us for a little while,  
then seems to cease. Whence the melody. and whither does it go?  
In darkness as in light, we turn to You, Lord, the Source of life, the Answer to all its mysteries.

Can it be that we, Your children, are given over to destruction, when our few days on earth  
are done? Or do we live in ways we cannot know?

Only this have we been taught, and in this we put our trust: from You comes the spirit,  
and to You it must return. You are our dwelling place in life and in death.

More we cannot say, for all else is hidden from our sight by an impenetrable veil.  
We thank You, then, for the life we have, and for the gifts that daily are our portion:

For health and healing, for labor and repose, for the ever-renewed beauty of earth and sky,  
for thoughts of truth and justice that move us to acts of goodness, and for the contemplation  
of Your eternal Presence, which fills us with the hope that what is good and lovely will not perish.

Lord, what are we? A breath, a passing shadow. Yet You have made us little less than divine.

### The Sharing of the Peace

### A Time with the Children

## **The Time of Remembering**

The Scripture            Psalm 126            light 4th candle

When the Lord restores the exiles to Zion, it will seem like a dream. Then our mouths will  
fill with laughter, our tongues with joyful song. Then they will say among the nations:  
'The Lord has done great things for them.' It is for us that the Lord is doing great things:  
we will rejoice. Lord, restore our fortunes, as streams revive in the desert. Then those  
who sow in tears shall reap in joy. Those who go forth weeping, bearing sacks of seeds,  
shall come home with shouts of joy, bearing their sheaves.

## An Act of Confession

Writing down those things by which we are still bound.

## Assurance of Restoration

Anthem                      I Will Not Leave You Comfortless    light 2nd candle                      Everett Titcomb

The Act of Remembering and Proclamation of the Story    light 3rd candle

## Scripture

Deuteronomy 26:1-10a

The Sharing of the Story remembering, claiming, letting go

## The Response

Our God and God of all ages, be mindful of your people on this day of remembrance, and renew us in love and compassion; goodness, life, and peace.

This day, remember us for well-being.

This day, bless us with your nearness.

This day, help us to a fuller life. Amen.

## The Time of Letting Go

The Hymn #275 Amazing Grace

## The Prayers of the People

The lighting of the candles, and burning of that which binds us.    light 1st candle

## The Response

This day, remember us for well-being. This day, bless us with your nearness. This day, help us to a fuller life. Amen.

The Hymn #111                      O God, Our Help in Ages Past

## The Benediction