

## Horton Center Worship Service (OMG)

### Call To Worship:

One: As we gather for worship we celebrate

All: A space in nature to learn and grow. (a plant is brought up and placed at the altar)

One: As we gather for worship we celebrate

All: A space away to try new things. (a paddle or oar is brought up and placed at the altar)

One: As we gather for worship we celebrate

All: A space of light to connect with God. (the candles are lit on the altar)

One: As we gather for worship we celebrate

All: A space where it's safe to share our story. (the Bible is brought up and placed at the altar)

One: As we gather for worship we celebrate

All: A space around the fire to feel the warmth of God. (a campfire log is placed at the altar)

One: As we gather for worship we celebrate

All: A space of acceptance to lean on one another. (a walking stick is placed at the altar)

One: As we gather for worship we celebrate

All: A space out in the open to be still and listen. (play a CD with wordless nature sounds)

One: As we gather for worship we celebrate

All: A space to welcome and to be welcomed and worship God.

Opening Prayer: Awesome God, we come this morning to celebrate and to worship all that you have done in our lives. We come, remembering the experiences out in your creation that we have had that help us to reconnect to you in special ways. God of Grace and Glory, help us to follow Jesus as his disciples to the mountaintop. Help us to open our hearts and to love and accept each other as you have loved us so that we can be our best selves.

Help us to form one community, united in love, to come down from the mountain and work for peace and bring hope to all people. Amen.

\*OPENING HYMN: This Is the Day

*(Time with children make this part intergenerational. Maybe show slides or the video of Horton center and sing a repeat after me song from camp.)*

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 17:1-9 (or) Luke 6:12-16

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

**God of wonder and awe, we admit that often we are too busy to revel in the wonder of your creation. We are so hurried that we miss chances to just be; to just be present to one another and to be present to the Creation around us. When we hurry inside without gazing at the starry sky, forgive us. When we fail to respect each creature and creation around us, yet profess to love the earth, forgive us. Create in us a spirit of compassionate curiosity to explore and fall in love with all of Creation. Give us the energy to live out our faith, even when it would be easier not to. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

As children of God, we are loved tenderly. God longs to bring us into God's embrace. By the life and love of Jesus, you are forgiven and free.

PRESENTATION OF HORTON CENTER CERTIFICATES TO LAST SUMMER'S CAMPERS: *(fill in names of campers ahead of time and be sure to let them know to attend)*

MESSAGE: *(this is a great time to invite a few campers to come tell the story of their experience at camp and how it helped them feel closer to God, or get to know themselves and others better. Be sure to contact them and confirm their attendance ahead of time!)*

OFFERING: *(we suggest that a portion of your offering, or a special offering, goes to support the Outdoor Ministry at Horton Center)*

\*CLOSING HYMN: *All God's Critter Got A Place in the Choir or This Little Light of Mine*

\*BENEDICTION:

Leader: Let us go be on the lookout for ways to invite others into our community!

All: We can do it with God's help!

Leader: Let us go be on the lookout for miracles happening in front of us!

All: We can do it with God's help!

Leader: Let us live each day as Jesus did: full of love and compassion.

All: We can do it with God's help! Amen!

\*SHALOM CIRCLE

*(In the tradition of Horton Center, the congregation will make a circle in the sanctuary, holding hands, and sing the Shalom Song)*