

# Hannah Service (2 - Weaving)

## A Service of Grief, Hope, and Worship

*Words in italics are to be spoken - they may also be included in the bulletin if you choose.*

Prepare ahead of time:

Supplies

- Fabric strips
- Chicken Wire stapled to a frame. If you anticipate a small number of people, use a frame that is 1 foot x 1 foot and pieces of fabric that are 3-5 inches long and 1 inch wide. If you are expecting more than 15, adjust the frame and fabric accordingly. The end result should be a full and beautiful piece of art that can be kept around the church.
- Christ Candle
- Recording of Gungor's *Beautiful Things* or another appropriate song of your choosing
- Taize versions of a Kyrie, of *When the Night Becomes Dark*, and of *O Lord, Hear My Prayer*.

People

- Musician
- Speakers: You will need readers or speakers for each of these. You might have a different leader for each, or one person might lead multiple parts of the service:
  - Invocation
  - Statement of Worship
  - Weaving Instructions before and after the scripture reading
  - 6 scripture readings
  - Closing Prayer

## Prelude

## Invocation

*Holy One, we gather, claiming the promise that you are always with us, that you hold us in behind and before. Come to us. Weave us together in hope and healing. Cause us to stand. Amen.*

## Statement of Worship -

*We have arrived here from many places, some of us hurried with minds racing and details swarming, some of us simply waiting for God who promises to meet us here. All of us formed by the grief that has seeped into our lives because of infertility, miscarriage, or the death of an infant child. All of us show up hoping that God's love is brighter than our darknesses.*

*Tonight, gathered in this place, we will weave together our grief, our hope, and our worship, remembering that God is, indeed, with us. Kyrie Eleison. Lord, Have Mercy.)*

## Weaving –

*Tonight during our service we will be moving through Psalm 69 and, as we move, we will spend some time at each of these tables, these candles illuminating our grief, our hope, and our worship. The Christ Candle is already lit. We are reminded that the light has come, and the darkness will never overcome it. As we progress, you will collect fabric strips. Hold on to them! They will form our response this evening.*

### Grief

**Plea:** Psalm 69:1-3

**Promise:** Isaiah 43:1b-3a

**Sung Together:** Kyrie Eleison

### Hope

**Prayer:** Psalm 69:13-17

**Promise:** Isaiah 43:1b-3a

**Sung Together (Taize):** O Lord hear my prayer, O Lord hear my prayer, when I call, answer me, O Lord hear my prayer, O Lord hear my prayer, come and listen to me!

### Worship

**Praise: Psalm** 69:30, 32-34

**Promise:** Isaiah 43:1b-3a

**Sung Together (Taize):** When the night becomes dark, your love O Lord is a fire, your love O Lord is a fire.

## Response – (play Beautiful Things, Gungor during this time of response)

*You are invited to respond to these promises by creating together with those who have gathered. When you are ready, you are invited to come forward and tie your strips of fabric onto this frame, weaving the long pieces through the wire. The art that we create will be displayed on Sunday in the sanctuary. Come, all is ready.*

## Time of silence

### Hymn – How Firm a Foundation

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in God's excellent word! What more can be said than to you God has said, to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled!

Fear not, I am with thee, oh, be not dismayed, for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid. I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand, upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

When through the deep waters I call thee to go, the rivers of woe shall not thee overflow; for I will be near thee, thy troubles to bless, and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie, my grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply. The flame shall not hurt thee; I only design thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.

The soul that on Jesus still leans for repose, I will not, I will not desert to its foes' that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake, I'll never, no never, no never forsake!

## **Closing Prayer**

*God of our deep longing, thank you for meeting us here, gathering our tattered spirits and weaving together our stories of grief. .  
As we leave this gathering, may our days hold grief, hope, and worship together. God, by your grace, hear all of our prayers.  
Make us a people of Hope. Amen.*

## **Postlude**