**A Liturgy for Youth Sunday**

**February 17, 2019**

**Ean Taylor**

**Worship Theme: Growing out of God**

**Call to Worship**

We are here today to sing to God.

**We are here to worship.**

We are here to learn from the Bible.

**We are here to worship.**

We have come to hear the Good News.

**We are here to worship.**

We have come to set aside our differences.

**We are here to worship.**

We have come to understand our similarities.

**We are here to worship.**

We have come to be a part of this church family.

**And our family is here to worship. Amen.**

**Call to Confession**

A leaf, when unattached to a tree, will begin to whither and fade away. If we each were a leaf, some would be older or newer, larger or smaller, pointed high in the sky or barely off the ground. But we are all connected to the tree, our God that gives us life. Often all we see are differences. But we are all leaves that are still growing and we are all nothing without our God. Let us confess our sins to God.

**Prayer of Confession**

Our God, we want to grow our tree to look like you, and be an example of your love.

**If we become disconnected, help us to find our way home.**

**Where we have not reached, push us to reach out and take hold.**

**When we can’t understand love, explain it to us again.**

**Forgive us when we fall, fail to try, or forget who you are.**

*(Silent reflection)*

**Amen.**

**Assurance of Pardon**

Here is the good news: God loves you. God is the good creator and wants all of creation to start this morning fresh and renewed. We are forgiven.

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**Prayer for Illumination**

Creator God, our community is like a branch and each of the people are like a leaf. God, please have your Holy Spirit blow like a wind through our branches and rustle our leaves. Have your word to be like water to our roots as it gives us life. Amen.

**Scripture Possibilities for the Sermon**

* Jeremiah 17:5-10
* Psalm 1
* 1 Corinthians 15:12-20
* Luke 6:17-26

**Prayers of the People**

God, there are people, young and old, going through pain and suffering. Some of those people may feel alone, so please send us out to be companions. Many people are feeling broken, God, remind them of the comfort of community. For all of those people that have been on our mind, God, please give them, and us, your peace and courage. Amen.

**Invitation to the Offering**

God gives us life every day. We are called to give back some of what God has lovingly given us.

**Offertory Prayer**

God, you are so selfless. You give us all that we need. May this portion of what you have given us be used to do your work in this world. Amen.

**Charge and Benediction**

We have all grown to be a part of God’s creation and God’s church.

Young or old doesn’t matter.

God loves us all, and expects all of us to continue growing.

Growing in our knowledge, our love for God and our compassion for one another.

Go from this place as many completely different leaves all riding on the same wind. Amen.