

# with: a Lenten prayer practice

2021

## GATHER

scissors & half sheets of white paper (blank or with writing; ~8.5x5.5")

## PRAY

**Created** ..... Pick up a sheet of paper and rub it between your fingers.

Imagine the world God created  
Know that you are God's  
Remember that God breathes life into you and walks with you



**Wandering** .. Bend and flex and shake the paper. Can you make storm sounds with your piece of paper? If you drop your paper, how does it fall?

Consider our world right now  
I wonder what draws us away from Jesus?



**Returning** .... Take your sheet of paper and fold it in half along the longest dimension

As you watch the halves of the paper touch, imagine what  
reconnecting with Jesus looks like  
Take your time; fold and unfold; imagine



**Restoring** .... Sometimes restoration is messy and hard work. Starting at the folded side of the paper, make two cuts to create a triangle, with the fold making the third side. As you set aside the scraps, you are invited to ponder...

How is the Spirit of God shaping us? breathing life into us?  
I wonder what the Spirit is inviting me to set aside  
so that I can say yes to God?



**Thankful** ..... Unfold your shape partway to reveal the leaf-like diamond shape. Cup it in your hands.

Where can you see the fruit of restoration today?  
Offer up your thanks



*You are invited to drop off or mail in one or more of your paper leaves to church. If this becomes a weekly Sunday practice, you could even drop off some every week. We are going to create an installation on the front wall of our sanctuary throughout Lent that will grow—with our folded paper leaves, offered prayers—into a communal tree of meditations.*

*As we worship together, whether live or in-person, we will be able to enjoy this visible representation of our prayers for this Lenten journey of "witness".*