



PRELUDE

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP—from Psalm 100

*Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth!
Worship the Lord with gladness;
come before him with joyful songs.
Know that the Lord is God.*

***It is he who made us and we are his;
we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.***

*Enter his gates with thanksgiving
and his courts with praise;
give thanks to him and praise his name.*

***For the Lord is good
and his love endures forever;
his faithfulness continues
through all generations.***

HYMN #611 *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

PRAYER OF PRAISE—a paraphrase of Psalm 121

***We lift our eyes to the mountains—
from where will our help come?
Our help comes from the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.
God, who watches over us, never sleeps!
The Lord is our keeper, our protector;
God watches over our coming and going,
here, now, and always!
Praise the Lord!***

RESPONSE #661 *His Eye Is on the Sparrow*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

Loving God, we pray for the wholeness that we can receive from the power of Christ. And we admit that too often we hurt ourselves and others by actions that wound rather than heal, that tear down rather than build up. Open our eyes, that we may see you in the ones we say we love. Open our ears, that we may be quicker to listen than to speak. Open our mouths to speak good rather than ill of our neighbors. Open our hands in generosity and help us to release clenched fists. We pray, trusting in your forgiveness and in the power of your Holy Spirit to lead us in right paths for your name's sake.

(time for silent prayers and reflection)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE—based on Exodus 15:26

God declares, *"I am the Lord, who heals you."*
This is the good news:
there is no partiality in God's kingdom.
God graces everyone with the same gifts:
mercy, new life, healing.
God has kept covenant;
we are forgiven;
we have been made new people.

Thanks be to God!

PASSING THE PEACE

HYMN (see insert) *O the Deep, Deep, Love of Jesus*

SCRIPTURE READINGS Psalm 145:8-17
Matthew 13:44-46

MESSAGE Joyful Surrender

HYMN #450 *Be Thou My Vision*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

***Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.***

*For yours is the kingdom,
and the power,
and the glory
now and forever. Amen.*

HYMN #546 *Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” John 20:21

