

PRELUDE *How Firm a Foundation,*
American Folk Melody 1832
- Ian Alvarez, brass variation

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

The invitation is given to every person by Jesus Christ: "Come to me! Follow me!"

We come to this place and to this time,
at the invitation of Jesus Christ.

In the name of Jesus Christ,

we praise our God and celebrate God's goodness.

In the midst of a world that can sometimes be cruel,

we proclaim the God of compassion.

Where there is despair that threatens to swallow up lives and communities,

we proclaim the God of hope.

In the midst of indifference and apathy,

we proclaim the God of love.

Come, let us worship together
and praise our Savior, Jesus Christ,
who calls us to follow him into the world
and proclaim God's lovingkindness.

HYMN #667 ***When Morning Gilds the Skies***

PRAYER OF PRAISE–from Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37

God's faithful love endures for ever and ever.

Because of God's everlasting goodness,
we offer God our thanks and praise.

God's faithful love endures for ever and ever.

Because of God's care and concern for humanity,
we offer God our thanks and praise.

God's faithful love endures for ever and ever.

Because of God's transforming grace,
we affirm, as a community of faith, our trust in God,
and we offer God our thanks and praise.

RESPONSE (insert) *Day by Day and with*
Each Passing Moment

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

God of shalom, we have built up walls to protect ourselves from our those we consider as enemies, but those walls also shut us off from receiving your love. Break down those walls. Help us to see that the way to your heart is through the reconciliation of our own hearts with those with whom we differ. Bless them and us, that we may come to grow in love for each other and for you, through Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace.

(silent prayer and reflection)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE– from Psalm 27:13-14

I am still confident of this:
we will see the goodness of the Lord
in the land of the living.
Wait for the Lord;
be strong and take heart
and wait for the Lord.
Friends, know the goodness of God who forgives,
restores, and supplies all of our needs.
In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
Be at peace, love the Lord your God,
and serve your neighbor.

Thanks be to God!

PASSING THE PEACE

HYMN #839 ***Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine***

SCRIPTURE READINGS Galatians 6:7-10 and
Luke 6:27-35

MESSAGE The Fruit of the Spirit: Goodness and Kindness

HYMN #693 ***The Gift of Love***

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.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND GRATITUDE

God of grace and hope, we give you thanks for the joy of giving, the mission of this community, and the pleasure of participating in your Kingdom's abundance and opportunity. Help us to keep the promises we make and feel the joy of your walking alongside us as we give ourselves away in ministry just as you did, Jesus.
Bless our budget this coming year. And give wisdom and grace to those whose responsibility is the stewardship of our collective resources. Gracious God, lying here invisible to most of us in our offerings and pledges are our silent promises of time and skill, of prayer and participation in the joy-filled life of this congregation. We now dedicate for the year to come all our promises of support to your service in the name of Christ Jesus. Amen.

HYMN #700 ***I'm Gonna Love So God Can Use Me***

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Lord of the Dance,*
Adapted from the American Shaker Song
"Simple Gifts" 1848
- Ian Alvarez, chimes variation