

PRELUDE Christ, Mighty Savior, Light of All Creation
- Ian Alvarez, brass

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

In the name of God,

who created us, who holds us and the whole world in his hands;

In the name of Jesus the Christ,

who came into the world as a human being who reconciles us with God;

In the name of the Holy Spirit,

who fills us with eternal life, who unites us with all of God's people and bids us live in harmony with all creation:

We come together to offer our thanks and praise.

HYMN #393 O Day of Rest and Gladness

PRAYER OF PRAISE

God of love:

you open the gateways of our hearts, morning and evening, that we might sing our praise to you, with all creation.

Come refresh, renew and restore us.

Send your Spirit

that your peace might calm troubled hearts, that your joy might strengthen us in hope, that your love poured out might spur us to service.

Move among us now, as we offer our praise.

RESPONSE (insert) Spirit of the Living God

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

Loving God, we pray for the power to be gentle, the strength to be forgiving, the patience to be understanding, and the endurance to accept the consequences of holding to what we believe to be right.

May we put our trust in the power of good to overcome evil, and the power of love to overcome hatred. We pray for the vision to see and the faith to believe in a world emancipated from violence.

Where we have caused harm or have refused to walk the challenging path of reconciliation, forgive us, and set our fee on the path of peace.

(silent prayer and reflection)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE—from Ephesians 2:14-18

Jesus himself is our peace; in his body he has broken down the dividing wall of hostility, that he might reconcile people to God and to one another. He proclaimed peace, that all may have access to God through the Spirit.

Beloved of God, through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, you are reconciled to God and to your neighbors.
Walk in that peace, and be a peacemaker as you follow Christ, the Prince of Peace.

Thanks be to God!

PASSING THE PEACE

HYMN #123 It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

SCRIPTURE READINGS Psalm 122 and Romans 12:14-21

MESSAGE The Upside-Down Kingdom: Blessed Are the Peacemakers

HYMN #756 O God of Every Nation

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 #753 Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Take My Life and Let It Be
- Ian Alvarez, chimes carillon