

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP (adapted from Psalm 149:1-5)

Let us praise the LORD!

Sing to the LORD a new song,
God's praise in the assembly of the faithful.
Let the faithful revel in the Creator;
let the children of God rejoice in their Lord.
Let them praise God's name with dancing,
making melody with tambourine and lyre.
For the LORD takes pleasure in the faithful;
and adorns the humble with victory.
Let the faithful exult in glory;
let them sing for joy on their couches.
Praise the LORD!

HYMN #35 Praise to the Lord Almighty

PRAYER OF THE DAY (from the Book of Common Worship)

God of the ages,

you call the church to keep watch in the world and to discern the signs of the times.

Grant us the wisdom which your Spirit bestows, that with courage we may proclaim your prophetic word,

and complete the work that you have set before us; through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF REFLECTION AND CONFESSION

(In this prayer we consider and reflect on not only our personal areas of confession, but we also reflect on and confess the failures of the whole church. Please join in this communal confession as you reflect as well on God's love and calling for you.)

Wondrous God we have been like people asleep;

awaken us to the changing world around us.

Saving Lord, we have held on to a past awash with flood waters,

save us, set our feet on solid ground, and set us on a new course.

Holy Spirit, we have sought to create a church of our own making;

enliven us with your creative power, cause us in to grow together in love, building anew the church rooted in Christ.

Holy Trinity, forgive us as we hold back, open us to the new things you are creating, to the glory of your name. Amen.

(silent prayer and reflection)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God proclaims, "I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert." In Christ we are forgiven, by the power of the Holy Spirit new life sprouts in the desert parts of our lives. God is making us and the church new today! Alleluia! Amen.

HYMN #435 There is a Wideness to God's Mercy

PASSING THE PEACE

HYMN #494 Jesus Thou Joy of Loving Hearts

SCRIPTURE READINGS Romans 12:9-21

Matthew 5:38-48

MESSAGE

HYMN #300 We Are One in the Spirit

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 AFTER COMMUNION

BENEDICTION

HYMN #720 Jesus Calls Us

POSTLUDE