

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP—from Psalm 66:1-12

Shout out to God, all the earth!

Break into joyful songs to the God of creation!

Sing of the glory due his name,
and offer your grateful praises!

All your works are wonderful!
The entire earth glorifies you,
singing songs of praise and glory to your
name.

Come, let's bless God together!

Let's praise the One who gives us life, who watches over us, and sets our feet in a spacious place of freedom and beauty.

HYMN #14 For the Beauty of the Earth

PRAYER OF PRAISE

Loving God, we thank you for the signs that life continues: for crocuses and daffodils rising from their winter dormancy; for the rains that nourish the fields; for the return of birds whose call wakes the day with praise. More than these, we cherish the promises of Jesus which grace our hearts like the spring sun.

Because he lives, we also shall live.

RESPONSE (insert) This Is My Father's World

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

Jesus, we share the strengths and the failures of your first disciples. We share their devotion to you, and we share their weaknesses. We desire to believe, but we do not fully trust in your power to heal and bless, and we struggle to believe that we share in these gifts. Like Peter, we acknowledge you as Messiah but refuse to believe that sacrifice and death can ever be God's way. Yet, O Jesus, you love us and continually call us to your side. Cleanse our hearts of selfishness and fear; give us the love that bears all things, believes all things, and hopes and endures all things.

(time for silent prayers and reflection)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

In Jesus Christ, the God who challenges us is also the God who encourages us.
The God who confronts us is also the God who accepts us.
Be assured that God is with us even now, in Jesus Christ, accepting, guiding, and forgiving.

Thanks be to God!

PASSING THE PEACE

HYMN #839 Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine

SCRIPTURE READINGS Psalm 8:1-15

Galatians 5:13-25 Romans 12:9-11

MESSAGE Deadly Sins and Life-Giving Virtues:

Lust and Honor

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.

HYMN #761 Called as Partners in Christ's Service

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

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

