



PRELUDE *Take My Hand, Precious Lord*
- David Little, piano

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Great is our God, and greatly to be praised!

**The whole earth reflects
God's majesty and strength.**

When we recall the wonders of God's creation,

**we rejoice at the beauty
and the complexity of it all.**

Lord, you bring us from fear to hope.

**Let us worship and praise God
for God's enduring faithfulness.**

HYMN #20 *All Things Bright and Beautiful*

PRAYER OF PRAISE

—based on the beatitudes (Matt.5:1-11)

Wonderful is the God of Christ,
who gathers the poor of the earth.

**Glorious is our God,
who wipes away the tears of sorrow.**

Wonderful is the God of Christ,
who gives inheritance to the meek.

**Glorious is our God,
who satisfies the hunger of the just.**

Wonderful is the God of Christ,
who gives mercy to the merciful.

**Glorious is our God,
who gives vision to the pure in heart.**

Wonderful is the God of Christ,
who adopts the peacemakers.

**Glorious is our God,
who lifts high the persecuted.**

Wonderful is the God of Christ,
who finds the lost.

**Glorious is our God,
who awakens the dead.**

CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Kristopher James Sackett

Congregational Response:

In the presence of God, the Author and Giver of life, we, the Body of Christ at Maplewood Presbyterian Church pray for you parents in the great and joyful responsibility God has entrusted to you. As a community of faith, we promise to stand with you and your children as God's covenant people. As a welcoming community, we commit to ordering our congregational and individual life and witness that all may grow in the knowledge and love of God and grow in their commitment to follow the Way of Jesus Christ. We promise this in the name of Jesus, who became a child that we might become children of God. Amen.

RESPONSE #488 *I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

Merciful God, you have loved us with a love beyond our understanding, and you have set us on right paths for your name's sake. Yet we have strayed from your way; we have accepted the power structures of this world as the only way to solve problems. We forget that you chose a path of humility and self-sacrifice as the true way of love and peace. As we remember the lavish gift of your grace, we give you thanks that you forgive again and again. As forgiven people, grant us the grace to now see as you see, and to love as you love.

(silent prayer and reflection)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE—from Romans 8:35, 37-39

*Who will separate us from the love of Christ?
Will trouble or hardship or persecution or famine
or nakedness or danger or sword?
No, in all these things we are more than victorious
through him who loved us. For I am convinced that
neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers,
nor things present, nor things to come,
nor any powers,
nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation
will be able to separate us from the love of God
in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

Thanks be to God!

PASSING THE PEACE

HYMN #308 *O God in Whom All Life Begins*

SCRIPTURE READING 1Corinthians 1:25-29

SPECIAL MUSIC *His Eye is on the Sparrow*
- Janie Lee Kelly, soloist
- David Little, piano

MOMENT FOR MISSION

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 5:1-12

MESSAGE The Upside-Down Kingdom:
Learning to See as God Sees

HYMN #346 *For the Healing of the Nations*

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 #172 *Blest Are They*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Bouree, by J.S. Bach*
Ian Alvarez, marimba