



PRELUDE

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

We are here
to worship a remarkable God.

**The love of God welcomes us,
the grace of Christ awaits us,
the joy of the Spirit enfolds us.**

Don't come as the duty-bound, come as the truly
free.

Don't come as petitioners, come as those
who are already heard.

Don't come as interlopers, come as invited guests.

Don't come as the outsiders,
come as much-wanted children.

**The love of God emboldens us.
The grace of Christ redeems us.
The joy of the Spirit uplifts us.**

Come as the joyful, come as the eager,
come as the thankful,
come as the recipients of amazing grace.

**The love of God overflows our hearts.
The grace of Christ liberates our spirits,
The joy of the Spirit sounds through our being.**

HYMN #1 *Holy, Holy, Holy*

PRAYER OF PRAISE

Triune God,
we desire to know you better, and more fully.
We ask you to reveal more of yourself to us,
to take us beyond the confines of familiar habits,
to free us from the restrictions and distortions
of our language,
to expand our understanding of you
so that we can love you wholeheartedly,
communicate who you are faithfully,
and so we can reflect your image
to a world that needs you.

RESPONSE #711 *Lord of All Good*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

**God of the lost and found:
when we try to hide from you,
or when we wander from your ways,
you always find us and welcome us home
to your heart of hospitality.
Though we have done nothing to earn them,
you pour out the gifts of grace and mercy upon us.
When we stumble over our lack of trust,
you set us back on our feet,
to follow you into the ways of true life.
You speak your peace, and it is enough.
Help us to receive your gifts,
and live in the spaciousness
of your Kingdom of joy and peace.**

(silent prayer and reflection)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

—inspired by 2 Corinthians 12:2-10

God's grace is sufficient for all our needs,
covering all our sins.
God's power is made perfect in our weakness,
as Christ redeems our lives
and reconciles us fully and completely to God.

Thanks be to God!

PASSING THE PEACE

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

SPECIAL MUSIC Dan Woodworth, soloist

SCRIPTURE READINGS Deuteronomy 6:4-9
Colossians 3:12-17

MESSAGE Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations:
Intentional Faith Development

HYMN #39 *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

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 #543 *O Christ, Surround Me*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE