



**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Hear the amazing good news:  
Jesus Christ is alive!

**Praise God, who has lifted the veil of death  
and guides us on the path of Life  
through the risen Christ.**

This is our God, in whom we have placed our hope.

**Let us be glad and rejoice in God's salvation!**

God's light shines in darkness,  
and darkness cannot overcome it.

**This is the day that God has made;  
we will rejoice and be glad in it!**

**HYMN #246 *Christ is Alive!***

**PRAYER OF PRAISE**—based on 1Peter 1:3-5 and  
Romans 8:37-38

**Blessed be the God and Father  
of our Lord Jesus Christ!  
Through the resurrection of Jesus Christ  
we have been born anew into a living hope;  
we have been given an inheritance  
that will never pass away!  
Therefore, in Christ  
we are more than conquerors,  
for nothing can separate us from the love of God!**

**RESPONSE #250 *In the Bulb There Is a Flower***

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND REFLECTION**

Loving God, we rejoice that in you we can place all our hope. We confess, however, that it is difficult to hold on to hope when bad news is the news of the day. We confess our willingness to rely on ourselves or false securities of the world. We confess our willingness to deny your power in our lives and in the world. We confess that it is hard to believe that you work all things together for good. Help us to trust you more, and place our hope fully in you.

(time for silent prayers and reflection)

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**—adapted from Romans 8:26-27

When we don't know how or what to pray,  
the Spirit knows.

When all we can muster are sighs and groans,  
the Spirit knows those also.

When we feel that we aren't even worthy  
to approach God,  
the Spirit goes before us and with us  
and God welcomes us with arms open.

**Thanks be to God!**

**PASSING THE PEACE**

**HYMN #275 *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God***

**SCRIPTURE READINGS** Psalm 71:1-14 and  
Romans 8:18-28

**MESSAGE** Living into Hope

**HYMN #772 *Live into Hope*****MOMENT FOR MISSION**  
Dan'l Markham, Everett Gospel Mission

**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.*

**SONG #750 *Goodness Is Stronger than Evil***

Love is stronger than hate;  
Light is stronger than darkness;  
Life is stronger than death.

Victory is ours, victory is ours,  
through God who loves us.  
Victory is ours, victory is ours,  
through God who loves us.

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

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