



## 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 slaves, 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 sings in our souls.**

**HYMN #475 *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing***

## PRAYER OF PRAISE

This is the day that you have made,  
life-giving God!  
Joining with the chorus  
that is rising throughout all the earth,  
we will rejoice and be glad this day.  
You take our endings  
and you make new beginnings.  
Your surprise and astound us in places  
where we thought that you were absent.  
You challenge us to reconsider what is possible.  
Living Christ, we praise you,  
for you were raised  
by the love and power of God  
and there is a new creation,  
and by your grace, we are in it! Alleluia! Amen.

**RESPONSE #630 *Fairest Lord Jesus***

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

God of abundant mercy and endless patience,  
we are easily distracted, and, in our self-  
absorption, we stray from your ways. Protect  
us, Good Shepherd, from becoming lost—in  
selfishness, fear, or pride. And when you run to  
find us, help us to let ourselves be found and  
respond in faith—the faith that trusts that you  
indeed love us and that we are yours.

(silent prayer and reflection)

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Merciful and loving God,  
we thank you for never losing hope for us.  
When we are lost,  
you are there on the look-out for us,  
bringing us back to you,  
like the good shepherd that you are.  
You assure us  
that there is rejoicing in heaven over us  
whenever we turn to you.  
May this joy flow into our lives each day,  
and be faithfully reflected  
to the world around us.  
Thanks be to God, our Great Shepherd!

**PASSING THE PEACE**

**HYMN #774** *There is Now a New Creation*

**SCRIPTURE READING** Luke 15:1-10 and 11-32

**MESSAGE** Parables of Jesus: Lost and Found

**HYMN #771** *What is the World Like*

**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 #462** *I Love to Tell the Story*

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

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

