



PRELUDE *O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High,*
- Ian Alvarez, brass

CALL TO WORSHIP—based on Psalm 24

Come, let us worship and lift up our hearts

not because everything in the world is good
and last week was perfect,
but because the earth is the Lord's
and everything in it,
the God of the whole earth.

Come, let us worship and raise our voices,

not because our lives are all
sweetness and light,
but because even those who walk in darkness
can see a great light,
the light of the risen Christ shining on us.

Come, let us worship and rejoice,

not because God gives us what we want,
but because God gives us what we need:
grace, mercy, and joy for our journey.

HYMN #12 *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

PRAYER OF PRAISE

Creator God, we come before you
with hearts overflowing with gratitude
for your boundless generosity,
recognizing that every good thing—
life, love, blessings, and purpose—
comes from your open hands.
Thank you for the indescribable gift of your grace
and for calling us to be a blessing to others.
May our lives be a reflection of your giving spirit,
enabling us to joyfully share our time, talents, and
treasures for your glory and kingdom.
In Jesus' name, Amen.

RESPONSE #716 *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

*"Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of
witnesses,
let us throw off everything that hinders,
and the sin that so easily entangles,
and run the race that is set before us,
looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter
of our faith..." Hebrews 12:1-2*

With Christ as our example and our guide,
let us open our hearts to God in simplicity
and sincerity of faith, trusting in God's mercy
and grace:

**Purify and strengthen us, loving God.
Cleanse our hearts and minds of clutter,
of all that prevents us from loving you
and loving our neighbor.
May our lives be marked by simple faith,
active in love,
as we watch and wait
for your breaking into our lives
and into our world once more.**

(silent prayer and reflection)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE—based on 2Corinthians 5:17

Beloved of God, hear the good news:
Christ died for us,
Christ rose for us,
Christ reigns in power for us,
Christ prays for us.
Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.
The old life has gone; a new life has begun.

Thanks be to God!

PASSING THE PEACE

HYMN #515 *I Come with Joy*

SCRIPTURE READINGS Proverbs 4:20-27
John 15:1-5

MESSAGE The Upside-Down Kingdom:
Blessed are the Pure in Heart

HYMN #286 *Breathe on Me, Breath of God*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER
and Dedication of our Pledges for 2026

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.

Prayer of Dedication and Gratitude

God of grace and hope, we give you thanks for the joy of giving, the mission of this community, and the pleasure of participating in your Kingdom's abundance and opportunity. Help us to keep the promises we make and feel the joy of your walking alongside us as we give ourselves away in ministry just as you did, Jesus.

Bless our budget this coming year. And give wisdom and grace to those whose responsibility is the stewardship of our collective resources. Gracious God, lying here invisible to most of us in our offerings and pledges are our silent promises of time and skill, of prayer and participation in the joy-filled life of this congregation. We now dedicate for the year to come all our promises of support to your service in the name of Christ Jesus. Amen.

HYMN #450 *Be Thou My Vision*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Trust and Obey*
- Ian Alvarez, carillon variation

