

PRELUDE J.S. Bach Concerto in A Minor, BWV 1041, 2<sup>nd</sup> Movement - Ian Alvarez, Vibraphone

> Note: Ian will be accompanied by recorded piano music, so you won't actually see anybody playing piano in the sanctuary!

### WELCOME

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

As we begin the season of Lent, let us be led by the Spirit,

even if the path to the promised land leads through the desert,

through hunger and doubt and temptation;

even if we are led where we would rather not go.

Yet we choose to be led by the Spirit

and end our journey rejoicing in the Lord our God.

HYMN #15 All Creatures of Our God and King

# PRAYER OF PRAISE

Faithful God, who created us in love,

renew us in love

as we open our hearts to you in worship.

Jesus the Christ, who redeemed this world in love, reclaim our lives as we offer ourselves to you in worship. Life-giving Spirit, who moves this world forward in love, move within us as we worship.

**RESPONSE #630** Fairest Lord Jesus

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

Jesus, our Lord and friend, you have told us that life is gained by losing it, giving it away, and letting it go. We confess that these words frighten us, for we are often unwilling to release control. Yet during this Lenten season we ask that you teach us what it means to let go, that we might be embraced by divine love, forever beyond our control and forever bountiful in mercy.

(time for silent prayers and reflection)

#### WORDS OF ASSURANCE—from Romans 8:37-39

Friends in Christ, hear this good news:

"In all things we are more than conquerors 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 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." Receive God's unconditional and always-available love, and live in love as God's children.

Thanks be to God!

## PASSING THE PEACE

HYMN #308 O God in Whom All Life Begins

SCRIPTURE READINGS Philippians 2:1-8 Luke 18:9-14

- MESSAGE Deadly Sins and Life-Giving Virtues: Pride and Humility
- HYMN #693 The Gift of Love

### 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 #307 God of Grace and God of Glory

## BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

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