



Welcome Guest Speaker Sheri Teesdale.

PRELUDE *The Lord Bless and Keep You*
Michelle Anderson, piano

CALL TO WORSHIP – Psalm 138
Thanksgiving and Praise. Of David.

I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart;
before the gods I sing your praise.

**I bow down toward your holy temple
and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love
and your faithfulness;
for you have exalted your name and your word
above everything.**

On the day I called, you answered me;
you increased my strength of soul.

**All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord,
for they have heard the words of your mouth.**

They shall sing of the ways of the Lord,
for great is the glory of the Lord.

**For though the Lord is high, he regards the lowly;
but the haughty he perceives from far away.**

Though I walk in the midst of trouble,
you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies;
you stretch out your hand
and your right hand delivers me.

**The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me;
your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever.
Do not forsake the work of your hands.**

HYMN #441 Hear the Good News

Hear the good news of salvation:
Jesus died to show God's love.
Such great kindness! Such great mercy!
Come to us from heaven above.

Jesus Christ, how much I love you!
Jesus Christ, you save from sin!
How I love you! Look upon me,
Love me still and cleanse within.

All the sins I have committed,
to my Savior now I bring.
I bow down with tears of anguish;
Christ forgives and so I sing:

Jesus Christ, how much I love you!
Jesus Christ, you save from sin!
How I love you! Look upon me,
Love me still and cleanse within.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, you call us, and we ignore your whisper,
listening to the voices of this world.
You call us, and we choose a different path,
following our own devices.
You call us to be your voice in this world,
to be your hands in this world,
to proclaim your peace,
your comfort, forgiveness, healing,
love, and grace.
Forgive us, open our ears, call us again, and use us.
(John Birch, <http://faithandworship.com>)

(time for silent prayer and reflection)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Hear the good news!
Who is in a position to condemn?
Only Christ, and 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.
Know that you are forgiven, and be at peace.
Amen.

HYMN #649 *Amazing Grace*

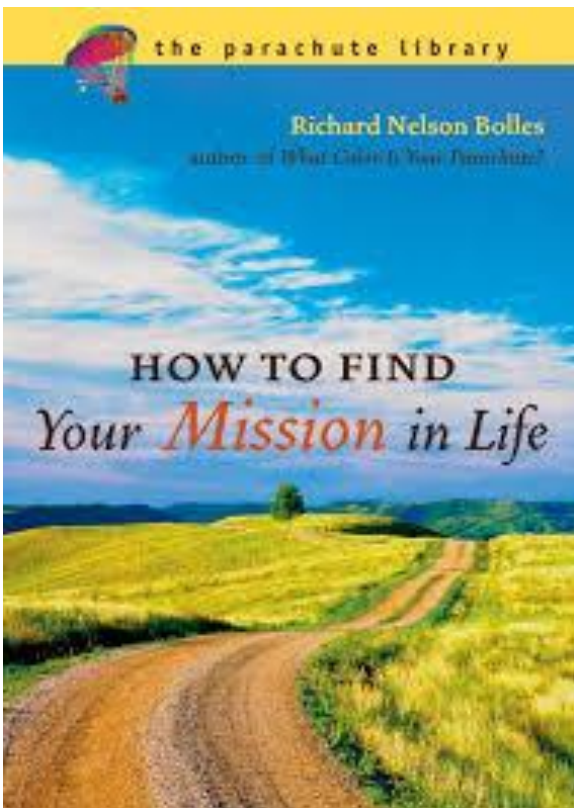
Amazing grace
How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now I'm found
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come;
'Tis Grace that brought me safe thus far
and Grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me
His word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.

When we've been there ten thousand years
Bright shining as the sun.
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we've first begun.



SCRIPTURE READING: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.

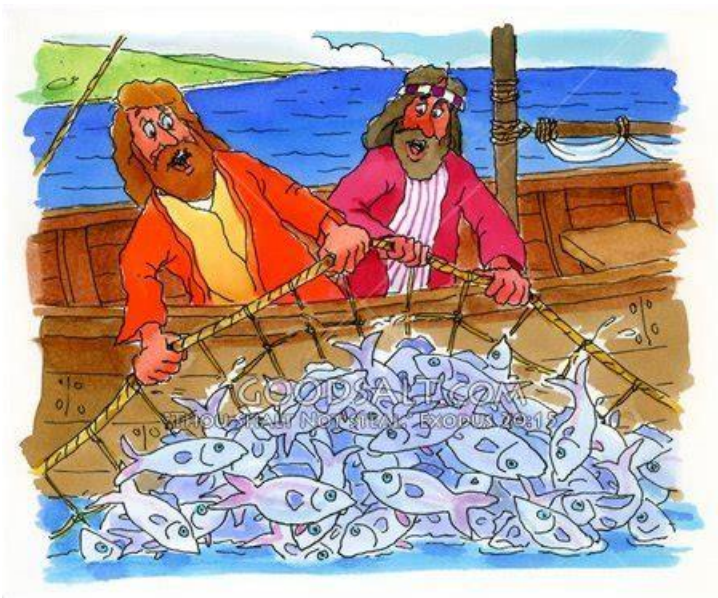
Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain.

On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

MESSAGE *I Was Blind, But Now I See*
Sheri Teesdale

PRAYER

Sisters and brothers, let us lift our hearts in faith to the one who hears all prayers and holds close all those in need.
Holy God, you gather the whole universe into your radiant presence and continually reveal your Son as our Savior.
Bring healing to all wounds,
make whole all that is broken,
speak truth to all illusion,
and shed light in every darkness,
that all creation will see your glory
and know your Son. Amen.



HYMN #726 Will You Come and Follow Me

Will you come and follow me
 If I but call your name?
 Will you go where you don't know
 And never be the same?
 Will you let my love be shown,
 Will you let my name be known,
 Will you let my life be grown
 In you and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind
 If I but call your name?
 Will you care for cruel and kind
 And never be the same?
 Will you risk the hostile stare
 Should your life attract or scare?
 Will you let me answer prayer
 In you and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see
 If I but call your name?
 Will you set the prisoners free
 And never be the same?
 Will you kiss the leper clean,
 And do such as this unseen,
 And admit to what I mean
 In you and you in me?

Will you love the 'you' you hide
 If I but call your name?
 Will you quell the fear inside
 And never be the same?
 Will you use the faith you've found
 To reshape the world around,
 Through my sight and touch and sound
 In you and you in me?

Lord, your summons echoes true
 When you but call my name.
 Let me turn and follow you
 And never be the same.
 In your company I'll go
 Where your love and footsteps show.
 Thus I'll move and live and grow
 In you and you in me.

POSTLUDE *The Gift of Love*

Michelle Anderson, piano

