



PRELUDE

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

We have gathered in this place,
**welcomed like a prodigal child
back into our warm, safe home.**

We have gathered in this place,
**embraced like children greeted by Jesus
when others turned us away.**

We have gathered in this place.
**Let us worship God as beloved children,
heirs to God's beloved kin-dom of peace.**

HYMN #611 *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

PRAYER OF PRAISE

Jesus came as a baby in a manger.
O come, let us adore him.
He grew as a child of God.
O come, let us learn from him.
He heard of his belovedness at his baptism.
O come, let us listen like him.
He followed God's Spirit into the wilderness.
O come, let us follow like him.
He loved and healed those who found their way to him.
O come, let us love like him.
He laid done his life as the ultimate act of love.
O come, let us die like him.
What shall we do?
O come, let us trust in him, Christ, the Lord!

RESPONSE #140 *Once in Royal David's City*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

You created a world of plenty,
**yet there are children starving for food,
thirsting for clean water.**

You created a world of peace,
**yet there are children in the path of war,
innocent lives lost
to the violence of weapons and hatred.**

You created a world with time for rest,
**yet there are children in homes and communities
so wrought with uncertainty and fear
that no rest comes
and sleep carries with it memories of fear.**

You created a world touched by your compassionate hand,

**yet there are children who never hear kindness
and never experience unconditional love
in ways they can understand.**

It is our sin, through what we have done
and what we have left undone,
what we have said and what we have kept silent,
that has caused your world to feel less
compassionate,
less restful, less peaceful and less bountiful.

**Forgive us. Place us back into the work
of reconciling ourselves to our neighbors and this
world
so that we may again dwell in peace
in your loving creation.**

(silent prayer and reflection)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE—from Romans 8:14-17

The Scripture assures us that *"All who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs: heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ."*

Sisters and brothers, hear the good news: as God's beloved children, we are welcomed, embraced, forgiven, and invited to share in the abundance of God's Kingdom.

Thanks be to God!

PASSING THE PEACE

HYMN #684 *Faith Begins by Letting Go*

SCRIPTURE READINGS 1Samuel 3:1-10
Mark 10:13-16

MESSAGE Like a Little Child
Rev. Heidi Greider

HYMN #487 *These Treasured Children*

CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION

SPECIAL MUSIC Amazing Grace
Dan Woodworth, soloist

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 #543 *O Christ, Surround Me*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE