



## PRELUDE

## WELCOME

## CALL TO WORSHIP

This is the day that the Lord has made.  
**We will rejoice and be glad in it!**

God's power and glory are revealed  
through God's marvelous creation.

**We worship God,  
who made the mountains and trees,  
the wind and rain, the sun and blue sky.**

God's power and glory are also revealed  
in Jesus Christ,  
whom God raised from the dead.

**We celebrate our redemption through Christ,  
and offer ourselves wholeheartedly,  
in gratitude and service.**

## HYMN *I Sing the Mighty Power of God (#32)*

I sing the mighty power of God  
that made the mountains rise,  
that spread the flowing seas abroad  
and built the lofty skies.

I sing the wisdom that ordained  
the sun to rule the day.

The moon shines full at God's command,  
and all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of the Lord  
who filled the earth with food.  
God formed the creatures through the Word,  
and then pronounced them good.

Lord, how thy wonders are displayed,  
where'er I turn my eye,  
if I survey the ground I tread,  
or gaze upon the sky!

There's not a plant or flower below  
but makes thy glories known.  
And clouds arise, and tempests blow,  
by order from thy throne,  
while all that borrows life from thee  
is ever in thy care,  
and everywhere that we can be,  
thou, God, art present there.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, you showed us true humility  
by becoming one of us,

**yet too often we practice pride.**

You cried alongside your friends  
and for the city of Jerusalem,

**yet too often we rush past the pain of others  
and are careless about our communities.**

You loved those who were weak, despised,  
or cast out,

**yet too often we love those who are  
strong, respected, or popular.**

You freely forgave and healed,

**yet too often we hold grudges and cause pain.**

You prayed that we who believe in you  
should be united with each other and you,

**yet too often we focus on the differences  
that separate us from others.**

You call us to be the salt of the earth  
and the light of the world,

**yet too often we shrink back, or hide our light.  
Forgive us, Lord,  
so that we will shine with your glory.**

(moment for silent prayers and reflection)

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

The Scriptures tell us: "Those who are in Christ are a new creation." This means that our failures and defeats and our faults no longer need to shape our lives. Christ shapes us. We belong to Christ, and he has showered us with mercy and with grace. Live this week knowing you are Christ's reconciled and redeemed people. Live each day with grateful thanks to God who claims you as his own.

**Thanks be to God!**

## PASSING THE PEACE

### **HYMN** *Restore in Us, O God (#434)*

Restore in us, O God,  
the splendor of your love;  
renew your image in our hearts,  
and all our sins remove.

O Spirit, wake in us  
the wonder of your power;  
from fruitless fear unfurl our lives  
like springtime bud and flower.

Bring us, O Christ, to share  
the fullness of your joy;  
baptize us in the risen life  
that death cannot destroy.

Three-personed God, fulfill  
the promise of your grace,  
that we, when all our searching ends,  
may see you face to face.

**SCRIPTURE READINGS** Genesis 50:15-21 and  
Matthew 18:21-35

**MESSAGE** *Teach Us to Pray: Releasing Debts*

### **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** *Make Me a Channel of Your Peace (#753)*

Make me a channel of your peace.  
Where there is hatred let me bring your love.  
Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord,  
And where there's doubt, true faith in you.

Oh, Master, grant that I may never seek  
so much to be consoled as to console,  
to be understood as to understand,  
to be loved as to love with all my soul.

Make me a channel of your peace.  
Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope.  
Where there is darkness, only light,  
and where there's sadness, ever joy.

Oh, Master, grant that I may never seek  
so much to be consoled as to console,  
to be understood as to understand,  
to be loved as to love with all my soul.

Make me a channel of your peace.  
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
in giving to all men that we receive,  
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

### **BENEDICTION**

May the grace of Christ attend you,  
The love of God surround you,  
And the Holy Spirit keep you,  
That you may live in faith,  
Abound in hope,  
And grow in love,  
Now and forevermore.  
And all of God's people said, Amen!

### **POSTLUDE**

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

