

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP—based on Genesis 1

What does the Lord require of us?

To do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God.

What does God command of us?

To love God with all our heart, and all our soul, and all our mind, and all our strength, and to love our neighbor as ourselves.

God does not call us to ease or to comfort,

but to presence, and abundance, and grace in our journey.

Let us worship the God who believes in us, trusts in us, and abides with us.

Let us worship the God who calls us to walk in faith, but will be beside us every step of the way.

HYMN #33 Praise the Lord! God's Glories Show

PRAYER OF PRAISE—based on Isaiah 43:15-19

God our guide, thank you for the promise that you make all things new. Help us to let go of what is old and embrace what you are doing anew in our lives and in the world. Grant us the strength to trust in your guidance as you make a way in the wilderness of our challenges and bring refreshing streams in the wasteland of discouragement. We open the eyes of our hearts to see what you are doing, and ask for the wisdom to recognize and embrace the newness you are creating.

RESPONSE (insert) God Will Make a Way - sung through three times

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

—based on 1Thessalonians 5:16-18: "Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

Loving God, we confess that it is often easier to be grumpy and critical rather than joyful and grateful. It is easier to worry than to pray. Forgive us when we take your gifts for granted, and miss the abundance that surrounds us. Grant us clear vision, open hearts, and willing spirits, that our trust in you may increase day by day.

(silent prayer and reflection)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE—from 2Corinthians 5:17

Hear the good news: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, with whom we are reconciled through Christ.

Thanks be to God!

PASSING THE PEACE

HYMN #774 There Is Now a New Creation

SCRIPTURE READINGS Romans 12:1-2 James 4:13-17

MESSAGE Knowing and Doing God's WIII

HYMN #771 What Is the World Like

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 #694 Take My Life and Let It Be Consecrated

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

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