



PRELUDE

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP—based on Psalm 92 and 95

Come, let us sing to God;

let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.

Let us come into the Divine presence with thanksgiving;

let us make a joyful noise to God with songs of praise!

It is good to give you thanks, O God;

to sing praises to your name, O Most High;
to declare your steadfast love in the morning,
and your faithfulness by night.

For you, O God, have made us glad by your work;
at the works of your hands we sing for joy.

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

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee,
opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
drive the dark of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day.

All thy works with joy surround thee;
earth and heaven reflect thy rays;
stars and angels sing around thee,
center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
flowery meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain,
call us to rejoice in thee.

Mortals, join the happy chorus
which the morning stars began.
Love divine is reigning o'er us,
joining all in heaven's plan.
Ever singing, march we onward,
victors in the midst of strife.
Joyful music leads us sunward
in the triumph song of life.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God, we confess
that we don't always understand
our own actions:
we clearly know what is right
—what you expect of us—
but we don't always do it.
We also clearly know what is wrong—
the thoughts and actions that hurt others
and stray from your Way—
but we do these things anyway.
Forgive us.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord
set us free from self-will,
and shower us with your mercy.**

(moment for silent prayers and reflection)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE—based on Psalm 145:8, 14

People of God, know this:
Our God is merciful and compassionate,
slow to get angry, and filled with unending love.
When we stumble, he is there to catch us;
when we are weighed down, he is there to lift us up.
So be at peace: your sins are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

PASSING THE PEACE

HYMN *What a Friend We Have in Jesus (#465)*

What a friend we have in Jesus,
all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit;
O what needless pain we bear,
all because we do not carry
everything to God in prayer!

Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged;
take it to the Lord in prayer!
Can we find a friend so faithful
who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness;
take it to the Lord in prayer!

Are we weak and heavy laden,
cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge;
take it to the Lord in prayer!
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?
Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In his arms he'll take and shield thee;
thou wilt find a solace there.

SCRIPTURE READINGS Isaiah 30:15-18 and
Matthew 11:28-30

MESSAGE **Having a Lightness of Being**

HYMN ***Come to Me, O Weary Traveler (#183)***

Come to me, O weary traveler,
come to me with your distress,
come to me you heavy burdened,
come to me and find your rest.

Take my yoke and leave your troubles;
take my yoke and come with me.
Take my yoke, I am beside you;
take and learn humility.

Rest in me, O weary traveler,
rest in me and do not fear.
Rest in me, my heart is gentle,
rest and cast away your care.

CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION

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 ***I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say (#182)***

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"Come unto me and rest;
lay down, O weary one, lay down
your head upon my breast."
I came to Jesus as I was,
so weary, worn, and sad;
I found in him a resting place,
and he has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"Behold, I freely give
the living water, thirsty one;
stoop down and drink and live."
I came to Jesus, and I drank
of that life-giving stream;
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
and now I live in him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"I am this dark world's light;
look unto me, your morn shall rise,
and all your day be bright."
I looked to Jesus, and I found
in him my star, my sun;
and in that light of life I'll walk
till traveling days are done.

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*