



PRELUDE

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP—based on Matthew 11:28-30

In mystery and grandeur

we see the face of God.

In earthiness and the ordinary

we know the love of Christ

In heights and depths
and life and death:

**the Spirit of God
is moving among us.**

Let us praise the triune God!

HYMN *Holy, Holy, Holy (#1)*

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! all the saints adore thee,
casting down their golden crowns
around the glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
Who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! though the darkness hide thee,
though the eye of sinfulness
thy glory may not see,
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,
perfect in power, in love and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name,
in earth, and sky, and sea.
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

PRAYER OF PRAISE

— based on Psalm 145:15-16, Isaiah 55:1-3, John 6:35

**Lord,
the eyes of all look to you in hope;
and you give them what they need.
You open our hand
and satisfy the hunger and thirst of every living
thing.**

**We, too, turn to you again, longing to be filled—
to eat of the Bread of Life,
to drink from your life-giving streams,
to taste your goodness.**

**May the time we spend together in your presence
nourish our hearts and minds;
may it strengthen our relationship with you,
and renew our commitment to live in this world
as your faithful disciples.
Amen.**

HYMN *Let All Things Now Living (#37)*

Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving
to God our creator triumphantly raise;
who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed
us,
by guiding us on to the end of our days.

God's banners are o'er us, pure light goes before us,
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night:
till shadows have vanished, all fearfulness banished,
as forward we travel from light into light.

By law God enforces, the stars in their courses,
the sun in its orbit obediently shine;
the hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,
the depths of the ocean proclaim God divine.

We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing;
with glad adoration, a song let us raise
till all things now living unite in thanksgiving:
to God in the highest, hosanna and praise!

OPENING OUR HEARTS TO GOD

When the busyness of our lives
erodes the intentions of our hearts:

Merciful God, forgive us.

When our personal agendas take precedence
over reaching out to others:

Merciful God, forgive us.

When we resist change, knowing that our acting and
thinking are limited by our prejudice and ignorance:

Merciful God, forgive us.

When we only half-listen to those
who cry out to be fully heard:

Merciful God, forgive us.

**Gracious and merciful God, forgive us for past faults
and help us in the present and future to make
ourselves more available to the hurting world that
surrounds us—the world that begins on our
doorsteps. Equip us to be patient and
compassionate listeners, proclaiming the gospel not
in overbearing ways but sensitively and lovingly.
Strengthen us with the Holy Spirit to be fruitful
witnesses to Jesus in all we do and say.**

(time for silent prayers and reflection)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

There is no wrong that God cannot make right.
There is no chasm that can separate us from God's
love.
The Lord is patient and kind, generous and good.
God will not forsake you or leave you.
Turn to the Lord with confidence
and put your faith in God's great mercy.
By the power of Jesus Christ,
we are made whole,
and sent as light to the world.

Thanks be to God!

PASSING THE PEACE

HYMN *Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me (#703)*

Jesus, thy boundless love to me
no thought can reach, no tongue declare;
O knit my thankful heart to thee,
and reign without a rival there!
Thine wholly, thine alone, I'd live;
myself to thee entirely give.

O grant that nothing in my soul
may dwell, but thy pure love alone;
O may thy love possess me whole,
my joy, my treasure, and my crown!
All coldness from my heart remove;
may every act, word, thought be love.

O Love, how gracious is thy way!
All fear before thy presence flies;
care, anguish, sorrow melt away
where'er thy healing beams arise.
O Jesus, nothing may I see,
nothing desire, or seek, but thee.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalm 39:1-9 and
James 1:19-21

MESSAGE *The Art of Listening*

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.

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 of ourselves that we receive,
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

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 *God Be with You till We Meet Again (#542)*

God be with you till we meet again;
loving counsels guide, uphold you,
with a shepherd's care enfold you:
God be with you till we meet again.

God be with you till we meet again;
unseen wings protecting hide you,
daily manna still provide you:
God be with you till we meet again.

God be with you till we meet again;
when life's perils thick confound you,
put unfailing arms around you:
God be with you till we meet again.

God be with you till we meet again;
keep love's banner floating o'er you;
smite death's threatening wave before you:
God be with you till we meet again.

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