



PRELUDE

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

This new day is fresh with possibility
to encounter the living Christ!

With eager spirits, let us search.

This new day is fresh with possibility
to understand the living Christ.

With engaged minds, let us ponder.

This new day is fresh with possibility
to be moved by the living Christ.

With compassionate hearts, let us feel.

This new day is fresh with possibility
to respond to the living Christ.

With faithful devotion, let us follow.

This new day is fresh with possibility
to serve the living Christ.

With humble intention, let us act.

This new day is fresh with possibility
to praise the living Christ.

With joyful voices, let us sing.

HYMN *For the Beauty of the Earth* (#14)

For the beauty of the earth,
for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies:

Refrain:

Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the wonder of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower,
sun and moon, and stars of light: **[Refrain]**

For the joy of ear and eye,
for the heart and mind's delight,
for the mystic harmony
linking sense to sound and sight: **[Refrain]**

For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild: **[Refrain]**

For thyself, best gift divine
to the world so freely given;
for that great, great love of thine,
peace on earth and joy in heaven: **[Refrain]**

PRAYER OF PRAISE

**O Lord, our God,
you are always more ready to give your good gifts
to us
than we are to seek them,
and you are willing to give more
than we desire or deserve.
Help us so to seek that we may truly find,
so to ask that we may joyfully receive,
so to knock that the door of your mercy
may be opened to us.
Receive our gratitude and praise this day, and each
day,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

HYMN *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing* (#610)

O for a thousand tongues to sing
my dear Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of God's grace!

The name of Jesus
charms our fears,
and bids our sorrows cease,
sings music in the sinner's ears,
brings life, and health, and peace.

Christ speaks, and listening
to his voice
new life the dead receive;
the mournful waken to rejoice;
the poor in heart believe.
My gracious Master and my God,
assist me to proclaim,
to spread through
all the earth abroad
the honors of thy name.

To God all glory, praise, and love
be now and ever given
by saints below and saints above,
the church in earth and heaven.

OPENING OUR HEARTS TO GOD

—based on Psalm 46:10:

“Be still and know that I am God”

Loving God, help me to be still in your presence.

**Take from me the tension
that makes peace impossible.
Take from me the fears
that do not allow me to venture.
Take from me the worries
that blind my sight.
Take from me the distress
that hides your joy.
Take from me the guilt
that distracts from your grace.**

(time for silent prayers and reflection)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

In the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus,
we are assured that there is no sin so terrible
that God cannot forgive,
no hurt so terrible
that God cannot heal,
no situation so distressing
that God cannot resolve,
and bring peace.
God accepts, God forgives, and God sets free.
Receive the forgiving love of God.

Thanks be to God!

PASSING THE PEACE

SONG *Calm to the Waves (#184)*

Calm to the waves.
Calm to the wind.
Jesus whispers, “Peace, be still.”
Balm to our hearts.
Fears at an end.
In stillness, hear his voice.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalm 37:1-6 and
Romans 12:14-21

MESSAGE *Walking in Peace*

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 *You Shall Go out with Joy (#80)*

- sung through TWICE

You shall go out with joy
and be led forth with peace;
the mountains and the hills
will break forth before you;
there'll be shouts of joy,
and all the trees of the field
will clap, will clap their hands.

And all the trees of the field will clap their hands;
the trees of the field will clap their hands,
the trees of the field will clap their hands
while you go out with joy.

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