



PRELUDE

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us begin our worship by reminding ourselves:
that it is not we who chose Christ,

but Christ who chose us;

that we are not here because of our goodness

but because of Christ's grace;

that we are not here to enlighten ourselves,

but to allow Christ to enlighten us;

that we have not come to be entertained

**but to love and worship God with heart, soul,
mind and strength.**

HYMN #475 *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

EXPRESSIONS OF THANKSGIVING

PRAYER OF PRAISE—Psalm 148, the Message translation

Hallelujah!

Praise God from heaven,

praise him from the mountaintops;

Praise him, sun and moon,

praise him, you morning stars;

Praise him, high heaven,

praise him, heavenly rain clouds;

Praise God from earth,

you sea creatures, you fathomless ocean deeps;

Fire and hail, snow and ice,

stormy winds obeying his orders;

Mountains and all hills,

apple orchards and cedar forests;

Wild beasts and herds of cattle,

snakes, and birds in flight;

Earth's kings and all races,

leaders and important people,

Robust men and women in their prime,

and yes, graybeards and little children.

Let them praise the name of God;

God's radiance exceeds anything in earth and sky!

Praise from all who love God!

All his children, friends of God.

Hallelujah!

RESPONSE #611 *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

**Jesus, you call us to follow your Way, and
sometimes we duck, or try to hide. We know that
we aren't expected to do everything, but we often
forget that you call us to be our selves in the places
where our very self is what is most needed. So give
us the grace to hear your call, and respond in faith,
and trust that you are working your good purposes
out in us and through us.**

(silent prayer and reflection)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Sisters and brothers—

we are a part of the Way-Maker's will
for the renewal of the earth.

As those who have been graced by mercy,
we are called, through Christ Jesus,
to strive for peace and reconciliation.

The One who makes a way and calls us to follow
will surely equip us for all we are asked to do.

Know God's forgiveness and empowerment,
and let all things be done in humility and love.

Thanks be to God!

PASSING THE PEACE

HYMN #683 *Lord of All Hopefulness*

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Nehemiah 8:9-12

Mark 1:16-20 & 2:13-14

MESSAGE *Calling and Following*

HYMN #751 *From the Nets of Our Labor*

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 #767 *Together We Serve*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE