



PRELUDE

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come and worship,
everyone on earth,
every place where the sun rises,

let's praise God together!

For listening when we call,
answering our prayers,
forgiving our mistakes,
and providing what we need:

let's praise God together!

Come and worship,
all who have a burden to release,
everyone who wants to give thanks,

let's praise God together!

HYMN #33 *Praise the Lord, God's Glories Show*

PRAYER OF PRAISE—from Psalm 36:5-10

Your love, O God, is as immeasurable as the heavens.

Your faithfulness reaches higher than the clouds in the sky.

Your justice is like the majestic mountains—firm and unshakeable;

and your judgments are as deep as the ocean depths.

And yet, in your greatness, you care for all of creation—people and animals alike.

How precious is your unfailing love, O God!
All humanity finds rest in your presence.
We eat and are satisfied at your table;
we drink from the river
of your overflowing kindness.
May Your love continue to grow deeply in our lives.
May your saving help come to all who are in need.

RESPONSE #703 *Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

—inspired by James 3

Loving God, we live our lives as best we can—dealing with difficult situations, putting failures and disappointments behind us, and moving into each new day with as much energy, goodwill, and faith as we can muster. Yet, we acknowledge that we struggle to find the right answers, and we do not always seek your wisdom; we just move ahead on our own, without praying for guidance. Forgive us for not asking for your insight. Fill us with your wisdom, that we may live lives that edify others, and ourselves.

(silent prayer and reflection)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE—also inspired by James 3

When we come before God in humility and honesty, God draws near to us with forgiveness and renewed blessing. Receive the forgiving love of God, be at peace, and be peacemakers in God's world.

Thanks be to God!

PASSING THE PEACE

HYMN #661 *His Eye Is on the Sparrow*

SCRIPTURE READINGS James 3:13-18
Philippians 2:1-8

MESSAGE The Fruit of the Spirit:

Gentleness and Self-Control

HYMN #684 *Faith Begins by Letting Go*

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 #546 *Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE