
Responding to God's love and grace, we WORSHIP with joy, NURTURE with faith, and SERVE others with love.

OPENING VOLUNTARY

“Sun of My Soul, Thou Savior Dear”
Edwin Walker, Pianist

Arr. Clarence Kohlmann

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

CALL TO WORSHIP | *Responsively*

God who gathers us together across miles and distance,
weave us into holy community as we sing, pray, and give thanks.
God who enlivens the stories of scripture,
bring the words of our ancestors to life and help us hear them anew.
God who scatters seeds across all kinds of terrain,
encourage us to love foolishly by sharing the good news everywhere.

HYMN OF GOD'S PROVIDENCE | “For the Fruit of All Creation”

Glory to God 36

1. For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God.
For the gifts to every nation, thanks be to God.
For the plowing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safekeeping, thanks be to God.
2. In the just reward of labor, God's will be done.
In the help we give our neighbor, God's will be done.
In our worldwide task of caring for the hungry and despairing,
in the harvests we are sharing, God's will be done.
3. For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God.
For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.
For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us,
most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION | *Unison*

God who took on flesh, help us to embody what we believe.
We are well-equipped to speak of our faith, to ask questions and read scripture.
Yet, sometimes we struggle to go beyond words
and fully live out our faith in the world.
Forgive us for the times in which we fall short,
and encourage us to keep striving to enact and embody your will.
Amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS | *Responsively*

God comes to us in rocky places and in thorns.
God comes to us when we are on difficult paths and when we are planted in good soil.
In all places and all times, God finds us and God forgives us.
Thanks be to God! Alleluia, Amen.

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

TIME FOR CHILDREN

Pastor Rosy and Pastor Jessie

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23

SERMON

Rev. Rosy Robson

HYMN OF GOOD NEWS | “Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ”

Glory to God 526

1. Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a shout of joy:
bread is broken; the wine is poured; Christ is spoken and seen and heard.
Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again; pass the Word around: loaves abound.

2. Christ is able to make us one; at the table he sets the tone,
teaching people to live to bless, love in word and in deed express.
Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again; pass the Word around: loaves abound.

3. Jesus calls us in, sends us out, bearing fruit in a world of doubt,
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Immanuel) everywhere!
Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again; pass the Word around: loaves abound.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | *Unison*

From The Heidelberg Catechism

How does God instruct us to treat one another?

God instructs us to condemn envy, hatred, and anger.

**God wants us to love our neighbors as ourselves, to be patient,
peace-loving, gentle, merciful, and friendly toward them,
to protect them from harm as much as we can,
and to do good even to our enemies.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER | *Unison*

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy 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 thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen**

CALL FOR OFFERING

“I Walked Today Where Jesus Walked”
Max Bitner, Soloist

Geoffrey O’Hara

OFFERTORY

BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

“Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus”
Edwin Walker, Pianist

Arr. Clarence Kohlmann

