

### Welcome and Announcements

#### Opening Prayer

Lector: Sing to God a new song!

**ALL: The faithful love of God fills the earth.**

Lector: By the word of God the heavens were made. By the breath of God's mouth, the stars formed.

**ALL: The faithful love of God fills the earth.**

Lector: Let the whole earth honor God. Let all who dwell in the world revere the Holy One.

**ALL: The faithful love of God fills the earth.**

Lector: The moment God spoke, the earth came to be. No sooner had God commanded, than there it stood!

**ALL: The faithful love of God fills the earth.**

Lector: Let us worship God in Spirit and in truth this morning.

**ALL: The faithful love of God fills the earth!**

#### Opening Song "Enter, Rejoice And Come In"

See next page for lyrics

#### First Reading The Story of our Featured Hymn

See next page for reading

#### Transitional Music "Thy Word Is A Lamp Unto My Feet"

See next page for lyrics

#### Gospel Reading Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

See next page for reading

#### Gathering Song "Here I Am Lord"

See next page for lyrics

#### Sermon "I Am Your Strength And Healer"

Rev. Dr. Nancy Wilson

#### Song of Reflection "You Touched Me"

See next page for lyrics

#### Prayers of the People (Join us in singing when instructed)

God, listen to Your children praying. God, send Your Spirit in this place  
God, listen to Your children praying, Send us love, send us power, send us grace

### Offering

#### Offertory & Doxology

##### Join us in singing

Give Thanks With A Grateful Heart, Give Thanks To The Holy One,  
Give Thanks Because You've Given Jesus Christ Your Son.

Give Thanks With A Grateful Heart, Give Thanks To The Holy One,  
Give Thanks Because You've Given Jesus Christ Your Son.

And Now Let The Weak Say "I Am Strong"; Let The Poor Say "I Am Rich"  
Because Of What Our God Has Done For Us.

And Now Let The Weak Say "I Am Strong"; Let The Poor Say "I Am Rich"  
Because Of What Our God Has Done For Us. Give Thanks!

### Communion

#### Invitation

##### The Great Thanksgiving

The Holy One be with you  
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts  
**We lift them up to our God.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

And, now, we will rise as we are able and pray the prayer  
Jesus taught us, saying...

*Our Creator, who art 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 trespasses  
As we forgive those who trespass against us  
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.  
For Yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory Forever. Amen*

#### Join us in singing the Communion Song

Let us break bread together on our knees, (repeat)  
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun, O God, have mercy on me

Let us drink wine together on our knees (repeat)  
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun, O God, have mercy on me

Let us praise God together on our knees (repeat)  
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun, O God, have mercy on me.

#### Closing Song "Leaning On The Everlasting Arms"

See next page for lyrics

### Benediction

#### Lyrics

##### "Enter, Rejoice And Come In"

Enter, Rejoice, And Come In. Enter, Rejoice And Come In.  
Today Will Be A Joyful Day; Enter, Rejoice And Come In.  
Open Your Ears To The Song. Open Your Ears To The Song.  
Today Will Be A Joyful Day; Enter, Rejoice And Come In.  
Open Your Hearts Ev'ryone. Open Your Hearts Ev'ryone.  
Today Will Be A Joyful Day; Enter, Rejoice And Come In.  
Don't Be Afraid Of Some Change. Don't Be Afraid Of Some Change.  
Today Will Be A Joyful Day; Enter, Rejoice And Come In.  
Enter, Rejoice, And Come In. Enter, Rejoice And Come In.  
Today Will Be A Joyful Day; Enter, Rejoice And Come In.

##### "The Word Is A Lamp Unto My Feet"

Your Word Is A Lamp Unto My Feet And A Light Unto My Path.  
When I Feel Afraid, Think I've Lost My Way, Still You're There Right Beside Me,  
And Nothing Will I Fear As Long As You Are Near.  
Please Be Near Me To The End.  
Your Word Is A Lamp Unto My Feet And A Light Unto My Path.  
Now I Will Not Forget Your Love For Me And Yet My Heart Forever Is Wandering.  
Jesus, Be My Guide And Hold Me To Your Side, And I Will Love You To The End.  
Your Word Is A Lamp Unto My Feet And A Light Unto My Path.

##### "Here I Am Lord"

###### Congregation Sings the Chorus:

Here I Am, Lord. Is It I Lord?  
I Have Heard You Calling In The Night.  
I will Go, Lord, If You Lead Me.  
I Will Hold Your People In My Heart.

##### "He (You) Touched Me"

Shackled by a heavy burden 'Neath a load of guilt and shame  
Then the hand of Jesus touched me And now I am no longer the same  
He touched me, oh, He touched me And oh, the joy that floods my soul  
Something happened, and now I know He touched me, and made me whole  
Once, I was afraid of failing You, Hid in closets filled with shame  
Then I heard the good news, Jesus, That love is love, and love wins again!  
Oh, You touched me, Oh Your touched me And oh the joy that floods my soul,  
God is with us, and now I know You touched me, and made me whole!

##### "Leaning On The Everlasting Arms"

What A Fellowship, What A Joy Divine, Leaning On The Everlasting Arms;  
What A Blessedness, What A Peace Is Mine, Leaning On The Everlasting Arms.  
Leaning, Leaning, Safe And Secure From All Alarms;  
Leaning, Leaning, Leaning On The Everlasting Arms.  
What Have I To Dread, What Have I To Fear, Leaning On The Everlasting Arms?  
I Have Blessed Peace With My God So Near, Leaning On The Everlasting Arms.  
Leaning, Leaning, Safe And Secure From All Alarms;  
Leaning, Leaning, Leaning On The Everlasting Arms.

#### First Reading

##### The Story of our Featured Hymn

Bill Gaither is an American singer and songwriter of southern gospel and Contemporary Christian music. Besides having written numerous popular Christian songs with his wife, Gloria, he is also known for performing as part of the Bill Gaither Trio, and the Gaither Vocal Band. In the 1990s, his career (as well as the careers of other southern gospel artists) gained a resurgence as the popularity of the Gaither Homecoming series grew.

Written by Bill Gaither himself, "You (He) Touched Me" helped propel Gaither onto the national stage. Gaither had been writing songs since 1960, but nothing struck the chord with the American public – but everything changed fifty-four songs later.

"I started writing in 1960 and had written a few that were strong songs, but nothing had made an impact on a national level yet," Gaither said. "That all changed with 'You (He) Touched Me.'"

The story behind the song started from an old preacher friend of Gaither named Dr. Dale Oldham, whom he recalled to be a "very eloquent speaker." While accompanying Oldham on some evangelistic crusades, the old preacher one day mentioned to him:

"The word 'touch' is a very powerful word. It comes up so often in the New Testament stories about Jesus touching people's eyes and healing them or touching people's lives and changing them. It's a special word, and you ought to write a song that praises His touch."

After that conversation, Gaither drove back to his home in Anderson, Indiana, with Dr. Oldham and his son, Doug. The seed of the song's idea further deepened when the three started talking about how deeply the Spirit of God was felt during the crusade meetings. When he finally dropped them off, Dr. Oldham told him once again, "You should write a song that says, 'You (He) touched me' oh, You (He) touched me."

Gaither had a hard time sleeping that night, unable to shake off what the old preacher told him, so he did what he said – Gaither wrote, "You (He) Touched Me."

In 1971 Elvis Presley recorded "You (He) Touched Me." It was also the title track of his 1972 Grammy Award-winning album. "I finally got a copy of his record. I just stood there saying, 'Hey, Elvis is singing my song! But that was all a bonus. I just really love the song,'" Gaither said.

The last verse and chorus we sing today was added especially for Pride, by Rev. Nancy.

#### Gospel Reading

##### Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector's booth. "Follow me," he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him. While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house, many tax collectors and sinners came and ate with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?"

On hearing this, Jesus said, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

While he was saying this, a synagogue leader came and knelt before him and said, "My daughter has just died. But come and put your hand on her, and she will live." Jesus got up and went with him, and so did his disciples.

Just then a woman who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years came up behind him and touched the edge of his cloak. She said to herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be healed."

Jesus turned and saw her. "Take heart, daughter," he said, "your faith has healed you." And the woman was healed at that moment.

When Jesus entered the synagogue leader's house and saw the noisy crowd and people playing pipes, he said, "Go away. The girl is not dead but asleep." But they laughed at him. After the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took the girl by the hand, and she got up. News of this spread through all that region.