

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Prayer

Join us in singing (When invited)

I have decided to follow Jesus, I have decided to follow Jesus;
I have decided to follow Jesus; No turning back, no turning back.

The world behind me, the cross before me.

The world behind me, the cross before me.

The world behind me, the cross before me. No turning back, no turning back.

Leader: God, we gather this morning as those who have decided to follow You

People: Help us to turn our hearts to you this morning

Leader: Sometimes following you seems easy, other times, it is challenging

People: Help us face the challenges with trust and hope in You!

Leader: Even when we feel alone, help us still to follow!

People: Help us reach out to one another, and not turn back!

ALL: Alleluia, Amen!

Opening Song

“Seek You First”

See next page for lyrics

First Reading

Romans 8: 1-11

See next page for reading

Transitional Music

Gospel Reading

Matthew 13: 1-9; 18-23

See next page for reading

Gathering Song

“You Are The Salt For The Earth, O People”

See next page for lyrics

Sermon

“Rooted in Good Soil”

Guest Preacher, Jenna Duranko

Song of Reflection

Prayers of the People

(Join us in singing when invited)

In solitude, in solitude, I come to God in prayer
In silence and simplicity, my spirit blossoms there

When-e're the world is troubling me, And stress is all around,
I seek the presence of my God, And healing light is found

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

Offering

Offertory & Doxology

Join us in singing

I've Got Peace Like A River, I've Got Peace Like A River,

I've Got Peace Like A River, In My Soul.

I've Got Peace Like A River, I've Got Peace Like A River,

I've Got Peace Like A River, In My Soul.

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.

Join us in singing the Communion Song when invited

Jesus is here right now. Jesus is here

In this bread and wine, true peace we find

Christ Jesus is here right now

Closing Song

“Sent Forth By God’s Blessing”

See next page for lyrics

Benediction

Lyrics

“Seek You First”

Seek You First The Place of God And God's Righteousness,
And All These Things Shall Be Added Unto You. Allelu, Alleluia!

Ask, And It Shall Be Given Unto You; Seek And You Shall Find,
Knock, And The Door Shall Be Opened To You, Allelu, Alleluia!

Seek You First The Place of God And God's Righteousness,
And All These Things Shall Be Added Unto You. Allelu, Alleluia!

Ask, And It Shall Be Given Unto You; Seek And You Shall Find,
Knock, And The Door Shall Be Opened To You, Allelu, Alleluia!

“You Are The Salt For The Earth, O People”

You Are Salt For The Earth, O People: Salt For The Reign Of God!
Share The Flavor Of Life, O People: Life In The City Of God!

Bring Forth The Reign Of Mercy, Bring For The Reign Of Peace;
Bring Forth The Reign Of Justice, Bring Forth The City Of God!

You Are A Light On The Hill, O People: Light For The City Of God!
Shine So Holy And Bright, O People: Shine For The City Of God!

Bring Forth The Reign Of Mercy, Bring For The Reign Of Peace;
Bring Forth The Reign Of Justice, Bring Forth The City Of God!

You Are A Seed Of The Word, O People: Bring Forth The Reign Of God!
Seeds Of Mercy And Seeds Of Justice, Grow In The City Of God!

Bring Forth The Reign Of Mercy, Bring For The Reign Of Peace;
Bring Forth The Reign Of Justice, Bring Forth The City Of God!

We Are A Blessed And A Pilgrim People: Bound For The Reign Of God!
Love Our Journey And Love Our Homeland: Love Is The City Of God!

Bring Forth The Reign Of Mercy, Bring For The Reign Of Peace;
Bring Forth The Reign Of Justice, Bring Forth The City Of God!

“Sent Forth By God’s Blessing”

Sent Forth By God’s Blessing, Our True Faith Confessing, The People Of God From
This Dwelling Take Leave. The Service Is Ended, O Now Be Extended
The Fruits Of Our Worship In All Who Believe.

The Seed Of The Teaching, Receptive Hearts Reaching, Shall Blossom In Action
For God And For All. God’s Grace Did Invite Us, And Love Shall Unite Us
To Work For God’s Realm And To Answer The Call.

With Praise And Thanksgiving To God Ever Living, The Tasks Of Our
Everyday Life We Will Face. Our Faith Ever Sharing, In Love Ever Caring,
Embracing God’s Children Of Each Tribe And Race.

With Your Grace You Feed Us, With Your Light Now Lead Us,
Unite Us As One In This Life That We Share.

Then May All The Living With Praise And Thanksgiving Give Honor
To Christ And That Name Which We Bear.

First Reading Romans 8: 1-11

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending God’s own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, God condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God’s law—indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of the Almighty who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, then that same One who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through the Spirit that dwells in you.

Gospel Reading Matthew 13: 1-9; 18-23

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: “Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!”...

“Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the realm of God and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”