

ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

September 2, 2018

9:45 A.M.

PRELUDE

*Prelude on “St. Catherine”
Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*

Olie
Bradbury/Paxton

WELCOME *(Please sign and pass the Friendship Pad in your pew.)*

CALL TO WORSHIP

(based on Song of Solomon 2:8-13)

*Leader: Here, our Beloved speaks to us; the voice of our Beloved
sounds in our hearts:*

**People: Calling us to generous acts, to share the gifts we have
been given.**

*Leader: Now, our Beloved speaks to us; the voice of our Beloved
sounds in our land:*

**People: Calling us to generous acts, to open our hearts to all in
need.**

*Leader: In every place, in every moment, our Beloved speaks to us;
the voice of our Beloved sounds in all creation:*

**People: Calling us to generous acts, to stand with God’s people:
the least, the lost, the little, the last.**

HYMN #409

God Is Here!

(please stand if able)

God is here! As we your people meet to offer praise and prayer,
May we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share.
Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.

Here are symbols to remind us of our lifelong need of grace;
here are table, font, and pulpit; here the cross has central place.
Here in honesty of preaching, here in silence, as in speech,
here, in newness and renewal, God the Spirit comes to each.

Here our children find a welcome in the Shepherd's flock and fold;
here, as bread and wine are taken, Christ sustains us as of old.
Here the servants of the Servant seek in worship to explore
what it means in daily living to believe and to adore.

Lord of all, of church and kingdom, in an age of change and doubt
keep us faithful to the gospel; help us work your purpose out.
Here, in this day's dedication, all we have to give, receive:
we, who cannot live without you, we adore you! We believe!

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of light, we confess that we live in the shadows of hypocrisy and self-righteousness. We honor You with our lips, while our hearts are far from You. We cling to human traditions and norms, while we avoid Your liberating truth. We have confused meekness with weakness, holiness with social conformity, and anger with righteousness. Cleanse our hearts from evil intentions. Save us from the prison of our conceit so that we may serve You with sincere hearts.....(*time for us to offer silent prayers of confession*).

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

RESPONSE #582

Glory to God

(please stand if able)

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son,
Whose grace has pardoned me,
And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.

World without end, without end. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

APOSTLES' CREED *(please stand if able)*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THOUGHT FOR CHILDREN

CONGREGATIONAL GREETING – “*The Peace of Christ*”

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

.....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.

OFFERTORY

The Lord Is My Light
Alex Krenz, soloist

Allitsen

The Lord is my light and my salvation. Whom, then shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life. Of whom then shall I be afraid? Though a host of men were laid against me, yet shall not my heart be afraid; And tho’ there rose up war against me, yet will I put my trust in Him. For in the time of trouble, He shall hide me in His tabernacle. Yea, in the secret places of His dwelling shall He hide me and set me up upon a rock of stone.

The Lord is my light and my salvation. Whom, then shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life. Of whom then shall I be afraid?

DOXOLOGY (*please stand if able*)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Generous God, receive these gifts for the work of Your kingdom. May Your grace infuse them with life-giving power for those in need. Along with these gifts we dedicate ourselves to live in Your truth and to work for the coming of Your kingdom. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.
(please be seated)

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 9:1-7

(pew Bible pg. 871)

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?' Jesus answered, 'Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.' When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, 'Go, wash in the pool of Siloam' (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see.

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

MEDITATION

"Practicing Our Identity"

Jennie Clark

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

We will partake of the Sacrament by intinction; you are invited to come forward row by row. Take bread from the basket, dip it in the chalice, partake of the elements, return to your seat. If you are unable to come forward, please remain seated and elements will be brought to you. The right section is gluten-free bread.

Invitation

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give thanks and praise.

Words of Institution

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Communion Prayer

HYMN #749

Come! Live in the Light!

(please stand if able)

Come! Live in the light!

Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!

We are called to be light for the kingdom,

To live in the freedom of the city of God.

Refrain: We are called to act with justice; we are called to love tenderly; we are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God.

Come! Open your heart!
Show your mercy to all those in fear!
We are called to be hope for the hopeless
So hatred and violence will be no more.

Refrain

Sing! Sing a new song!
Sing of that great day when all will be one!
God will reign, and we'll walk with each other
As sisters and brothers united in love.

Refrain

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Tell Out, My Soul, the Greatness of the Lord!*

Greatorrex/Olie