

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP



TO SHINE WITH THE
LIGHT OF JESUS CHRIST
SO THAT OTHERS
WILL KNOW
AND LOVE HIM

+ *Those who are able are invited to stand.*
You are invited to respond with the **Bold** responses.

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC *Renee Warner*

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HOSPITALITY

PRELUDE *Dan Martin*

SERVICE OF LIGHT *The Acolytes*
Jesus said, "I am the Light of the world."

+CALL TO WORSHIP *Responsively*

Something awakened us this morning—perhaps the morning's light, the smell of brewing coffee, the sounds of alarm by our bed, or the music of birds singing their morning anthems. And now we gather with awakened spirits to worship the Creator of this day.

Something moved us this morning—we left behind sleep or a restless night, we prepared for the day and we left our homes for here. And now we gather in this place to worship Jesus who moves among us and to follow the Spirit which leads us into deeds of love. May ours be a faith that is both awake and moving as we worship the Almighty.

+OPENING PRAYER *Leader*

We praise you, O God, and celebrate your presence with us. Your glory fills all heaven and earth, all time and space. Your gifts surround us in the beauty of this day, and dwell within us. We are your children. Come to wipe away our tears and comfort us in our distress. Come to heal our divisions and overcome our prejudices. Come, that we might be loved into discipleship. Amen.

+ OPENING HYMN *God Is Here UMH 660*

THE CHURCH IN MOMENTS OF CONFESSION

THE EPISTLE LESSON *1 John 5:1-6*

CALL TO CONFESSION *Leader*

This is the judgment, that the Light has come into the world, for people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. Let us uncover our sin before the liberating light of Christ.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *Responsively*

Merciful God, we confess that we have not been sincere Christians. We claim to follow Jesus but have not taken his path of sacrificial love. We profess to be disciples, but we are not willing to bear the cost of discipleship. We affirm the virtue of self-denial, but we indulge our selfish desires and seek earthly gain.

Forgive us, we pray. Free us for sincere repentance through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

PERSONAL PRAYER OF CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE *Responsively*

The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atonement for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.
Thanks be to God!**

RESPONSE *O How He Loves You and Me FWS 2108*

**O how he loves you and me! O how he loves you and me! He gave his life, What more could he give? O how he loves you, O how he loves me;
O how he loves you and me!**

THE CHURCH SHARES TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY INVITATION

We began worship today with songs that God inspires us to sing. Jesus teaches his followers the song about his love for the world. Jesus hopes that we would all join in singing and living into the song of Love.

Today in giving to others, let us join in the song so that the whole world may hear the beautiful and welcoming melody of God's love.

+OFFERTORY PRAYER *Unison*

Pour your Spirit upon these gifts, O God. Send them into the world as a sign and song of your joyous work of love. Use them to call and welcome into your house of love all who are your friends and our sisters and brothers. Amen.

+DOXOLOGY *UMH 94*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

THE CHURCH LISTENS FOR THE WORD

CHORAL CALL TO WIGGLETIME *UMH 405*

Seek Ye First, v. 1

Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia!

WIGGLETIME

THE WORD

SERMON *Rev. Steve*

ANTHEM *Chancel Choir*

Eva Atha, Director

THE CHURCH CELEBRATES HOLY COMMUNION



GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Spirit of God be with you all.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to God.

Give thanks to our God!

All our thanks, all our praise!

Holy God, Holy One, Holy Three! Before all that is, You were God. After all is finished, You will be God. Archangels sound the trumpets, Angels teach us their song, Saints pull us into your presence.

Holy, Holy, Holy God, our life, our mercy, our might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Blessed is the One who comes in your name.

Save us, we pray, You beyond all.

Blessed and blessing is the One who comes through Mary and the Holy Spirit. Jesus Christ, the Child of God, and friend of sinners, embraced our humanity by wearing it and graced our earth by walking it. Sinless was his presence and perfect was his offering on the cross. Jesus Christ now calls all to live as God's own children.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Holy God, Holy One, Holy Three! You beyond the galaxies and under the oceans, You inside the leaves and pouring down rain, You opening the flowers. You giving us your image and carrying us through the waters, You holding us in the night. You lived as Jesus among us, healing, teaching, dying, rising, inviting us all to your feast.

On the night that he was betrayed, Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; Broke it, and give it to his disciples, saying:

Take, eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

And after supper he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Holy God, we remember your Son, His life with the humble, His death among the wretched, His resurrection for us all:

And so, we cry, Mercy: **Mercy!** Glory: **Glory!** And we cry, Blessing! **Blessing!**

Holy God, we beg for your Spirit. Transfigure our minds. Make us, while many, united, Make us, though broken, whole, Make us, despite death, alive.

Come, Holy Spirit. **Come, Holy Spirit!**

Our Life, our Mercy, our Might, Our Light, our Treasure, our Tree, Our Way, our Truth, our Life, You, Holy God, Holy One, Holy Three!

Praise now. Praise tomorrow. Praise forever.

And as Jesus taught us, let us pray:

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

BREAKING THE BREAD & BLESSING THE CUP

Because there is one loaf, we, who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf. The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.

The cup over which we give thanks is a sharing in the blood of Christ.

The body of Christ, given for you. **AMEN.**

The eating of the wafer/bread.

The blood of Christ, given for you. **AMEN.**

The drinking of the cup.

PERSONAL COMMUNION REFLECTION *Dan Martin*

During the music following Communion, you are welcome to come to the altar rail in personal prayer.

THE CHURCH SCATTERS TO SHARE GOOD NEWS

+HYMN OF DEDICATION *UMH 614*

For the Bread Which You Have Broken

+SERVICE OF LIGHT *The Acolytes*

Jesus said, "You are the light of the world."

+BENEDICTION *Pastor*

Friends and Beloved of Christ, you have been chosen to go into this world with the message of God's love. Bear fruit of hope and joy, peace, and grace with all that you meet. May God's peace be with you all. **Amen.**

+POSTLUDE *Dan Martin*

...and the worship continues.

