

*The beginning of the prelude is a call to silent,
personal preparation for the worship of God.*

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

Be Thou My Vision Irish ballad; arr. Zsolt Gárdonyi

Introit

“O Lord, Open Thou Our Lips” George Guest

*Doxology (*sung*). The Hymnal, 592

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

*Invocation

*Hymn 288 “I Sing the Mighty Power of God”

Prayer of Confession

God of pure, unbounded love,
we are a people who long to be loving and a people who often fail.
Forgive us when our actions hurt ourselves and others.
Forgive us when we do not choose our words with care,
lest they hurt our family, friends, or neighbors.
Help us to go the second mile in loving and giving of ourselves;
make us strong and wise in our loving.
Hear now as we pray to you for healing in our relationships:
with you, with our loved ones, with our friends and associates,
with our world neighbors, and with ourselves.
Through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.
(*silence is held*)

Declaration of Pardon

Minister: *Friends, believe the good news.*
People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Concerns of the Church

Minute for Discipleship

*Stand as you are able.

Anthem

“You Shall Have Song” Harriet Ziegenhals

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter

Psalms 139:1–18 (*responsively*) Old Testament, page 545

*Gloria Patri (*sung*) The Hymnal, 579

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.

Scripture Lesson

Genesis 28:10–19 Old Testament, page 24

Minister: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Stairway to Heaven Judith L. Watt

Responding to the Word

*Hymn “Surely the Presence of the Lord”
(*The choir sings the hymn once; the congregation joins in repeating it*)

Sure - ly the pres - ence of the Lord is in this place;

I can feel his might - y pow - er and his grace.

I can hear the brush of an - gels' wings,
 I see glo - ry on each face; sure - ly the
 pres - ence of the Lord is in this place.

*Affirmation of Faith (*unison*) Apostles' Creed

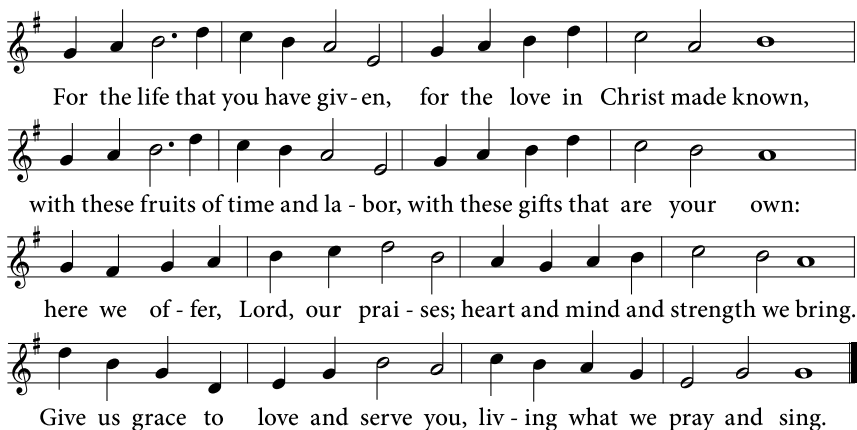
I believe in God the Father Almighty,
 Maker of heaven and earth,
 and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
 who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
 born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell;
 the third day he rose again from the 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.

Offering

Offertory Solo

"Simple Song" from *Mass* Leonard Bernstein

*Offertory Response



For the life that you have giv-en, for the love in Christ made known,
with these fruits of time and la-bor, with these gifts that are your own:
here we of-fer, Lord, our prai-ses; heart and mind and strength we bring.
Give us grace to love and serve you, liv-ing what we pray and sing.

Sealing the Word

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation

Great Thanksgiving

Minister: *The Lord be with you.*

People: **And also with you.**

Minister: *Lift up your hearts.*

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

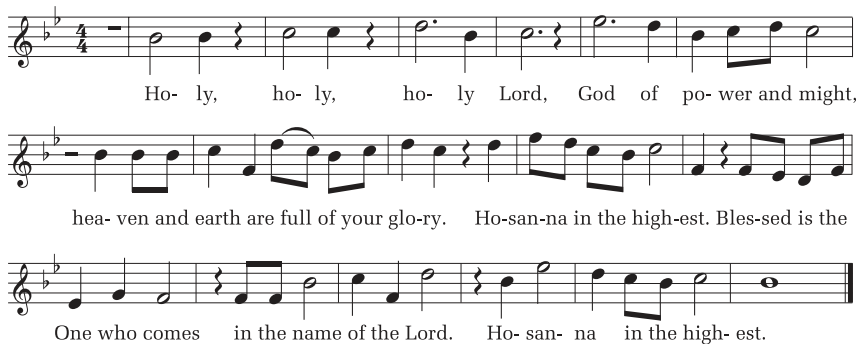
Minister: *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Prayer

Minister: *It is truly right and our greatest joy . . .*

. . . who forever sing to the glory of your name:



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of po-
wer and might,
hea-ven and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the high-est. Bles-sed is the
One who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

The Lord's Prayer (*unison*)

Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed by 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.

The Communion

Communion Anthem

“Litany to the Holy Spirit” Peter Hurford

Prayer after Communion (*unison*)

God of new life, with joy we have received this sacrament
of the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
the promise of hope and the grace of forgiveness.
Remind us in the days to come
that we have been fed by your very hand
and that you desire to nurture us always
because your love for us is more than we can imagine;
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.

*Hymn 508 “For the Bread Which You Have Broken”

Bearing the Word into the World

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Rigaudon André Campra

Worship Leaders

Matt Helms, Judy Kerch, Judith L. Watt

The Music Today

Women of the Morning Choir; Beena David, soloist
John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music

Worship Notes

TODAY'S MINUTE FOR DISCIPLESHIP is presented by Judy Kerch on behalf of the Worship, Music, and Arts Committee.

THIS MORNING, COMMUNION IS SERVED BY INTINCTION. The congregation comes forward by the center aisle to receive the bread, which they then dip into the chalice of grape juice. (Gluten-free bread is available in a small tumbler in each basket of bread.) Worshipers return to their pews by the side aisles.

The Lord's Supper is the sign and seal of eating and drinking in communion with the crucified and risen Lord. In this act, we remember that during his earthly ministry, Jesus shared meals with his followers and sat at dinner tables as a sign of acceptance of the sinner and the outcast.

The invitation to the Lord's Supper is not just for Presbyterians or "members of the church." All who confess Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord are invited to partake of the Lord's Supper. Access to the Table is not a right conferred upon the worthy but a privilege given to the undeserving who come in faith, repentance, and love. Even one who doubts or whose trust is wavering may receive the bread and grape juice (in place of wine) in order to be assured of God's love and grace in Jesus Christ.

SOURCES AND CREDITS: Hymn tune names—as well as composers of the music and authors of the text—are listed in the hymnal with each hymn. "Surely the Presence of the Lord" by Lanny Wolfe, copyright © 1977 by Lanny Wolfe Music. Used with permission. LicenSingOnline. License No. 610708. The words to "For the Life that You Have Given" are by Carl P. Daw Jr. © 1987; music is by Morgan Simmons © 1990, 1992 by Hope Publishing Co. The music for "Holy, Holy, Holy" is © 1997 by John Sherer. All are used by permission.

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