

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

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## Gathering around the Word

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### Prelude

Thee We Adore, O Hidden Savior, Thee. . . . . Plainsong  
arr. John Barr

### Introit

“O Give Thanks unto the Lord” . . . . . English folk song  
*O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is gracious and his mercy endureth forever.*

\*Doxology (*sung*). . . . . The Hymnal, 606

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 409 . . . . . “God Is Here!”

### Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Loving God, you told us that to love you,  
our neighbors, and ourselves was to live a life of fullness.  
Yet though we have been created by love  
and are surrounded by love, we stumble.  
We have trouble trusting in your infinite compassion for us.  
Forgive our lack of faith.  
We withhold forgiveness and compassion from others.  
Forgive our desperate control.  
Free us from the fears and anxiety that hold us captive.  
We pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

Leader: *Friends, believe the good news.*

People: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

\*Exchange of Peace

Leader: *The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.*

People: **And also with you.**

*We invite you to greet those around you, wishing them "peace" or "the peace of Christ."*

Concerns of the Church

Anthem

"Blessing" . . . . . Katie Moran Bart

*May the road rise up to meet you;  
may the wind be always at your back;  
may the sun shine warm upon your face,  
and the rains fall soft upon your fields.  
Until we meet again, my friend,  
may God hold you in the palm of his hand.*

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Listening for the Word

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Prayer for Illumination

Psalter (*responsively*)

Psalms 105:1–11 . . . . . Old Testament, page 525

\*Gloria Patri (*sung*) . . . . . The Hymnal, 581

**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 29:1, 10–12, 15–20 . . . . . Old Testament, page 25

Minister: *The Word of the Lord.*

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon . . . . . Shannon J. Kershner

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## Responding to the Word

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\*Hymn 30 . . . . . “O God, in a Mysterious Way”

\*Affirmation of Faith . . . . . 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

“Prayer of the Norwegian Child” . . . . . Richard Kountz

\*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.

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## Sealing the Word

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### 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 up 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: *Gratitude, praise, hearts lifted high, voices full and joyful . . .  
 . . . with all the company of heaven and earth  
 we praise your holy name, saying:*

Sanctus (*sung*) . . . . . The Hymnal, 572

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Minister: . . . *we cannot help but proclaim our gratitude  
 for the mystery of faith:*

Memorial Acclamation (*sung*) . . . . . The Hymnal, 573

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

#### The Lord's Prayer (*unison*)

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.

## The Communion

### Communion Anthem

“A Prayer of St. Richard of Chichester” . . . . . L. J. White  
*O holy Jesus, most merciful redeemer, friend and brother, may I know thee  
more clearly, love thee more dearly, and follow thee more nearly. Amen.*

### Prayer after Communion (*unison*)

Holy God, we give you thanks that we have been fed and renewed  
by Christ’s life in us. May we go now to touch people’s lives with his love.  
Send us forth equipped with the power of your Spirit to spread  
the message of his love and compassion to all whom we meet. Amen.

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## Bearing the Word into the World

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\*Hymn 366 . . . . . “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

\*Benediction and Response

### Postlude

The Rejoicing from *Royal Fireworks* . . . . . George Frideric Handel

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 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. 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.

## Worship Leaders

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Matt Helms, Peyton Keller, Shannon J. Kershner

## The Music Today

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Women of the Morning Choir; Sandy Wong, soloist

John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music

Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

## Worship Notes

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THE EXCHANGE OF PEACE, which follows the Declaration of Pardon, is a response to God's forgiveness. This exchange of signs and words of unity and of Christ's peace is an ancient greeting of siblings in Christ. This is a time when we extend to one another what we ourselves have received from God in Christ. You may shake hands and say "The peace of Christ be with you" or simply "Peace be with you," the greeting of Jesus Christ to his disciples after his resurrection. by exchanging the Peace of Christ to one another, we witness to God's reconciling love.

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. The Prayer of Confession is adapted from *Before the Amen: Creative Resources for Worship*. The words to "For the Life that You Have Given" are by Carl P. Daw Jr. © 1987; music is by Morgan Simmons © 1990, 1992 Hope Publishing Co. All rights reserved.

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**Abbi Heimach-Snipes** Pastoral Resident

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