

*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

Aria . . . . . Noel Rawsthorne

### Introit

“Goodness Is Stronger Than Evil” . . . . . John L. Bell

*Goodness is stronger than evil; love is stronger than hate;  
light is stronger than darkness; life is stronger than death.  
Victory is ours through God who loves us.*

\*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.

### \*Call to Worship

Leader: *Lord, you have searched me, and you know me;  
you know my sitting down and my rising up.*

People: **You discern my thoughts from afar,  
and you are acquainted with all my ways.**

Leader: *There is not a word that comes to my lips  
that is unknown to you, O Lord.*

People: **Knowledge like yours is too wonderful for me;  
therefore I give you thanks and praise.**

\*Hymn 450 . . . . . “Be Thou My Vision”

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Almighty God, you call us to serve you.  
You call us to follow you faithfully.  
We have been so occupied with our own concerns,  
we have turned a deaf ear to your call  
or we haven't even listened for your voice.  
Show us your tender mercy. Forgive our self-preoccupation.  
Release us from captivity to selfish desires.  
Empower us by your Spirit, O God,  
that our words, thoughts, and intentions will glorify you. 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

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Listening for the Word

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Prayer for Illumination

Psalter (*responsively*)

Psalms 139:1-6, 13-18 . . . . . Old Testament, page 545

Anthem

"Didn't My Lord Deliver Daniel?" . . . . . African American spiritual  
arr. Larry Shackley

*Didn't my Lord deliver Daniel, and why not everyone?  
He delivered Daniel from the lion's den, Jonah from the belly of the whale,  
and the Hebrew children from the fiery furnace, and why not everyone?  
Well I set my foot on the gospel ship, and the ship, it began to sail.  
It landed me over on Canaan's shore, and I'll never come back anymore.*

Living Epistle

"Letter from Birmingham Jail" (*excerpt*) . . . . . Martin Luther King Jr.

\*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

1 Samuel 3:1–18 . . . . . Old Testament, page 236

Minister: *The Word of the Lord*.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon . . . . . Judith L. Watt

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Responding to the Word

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\*Hymn 834 . . . . . “Precious Lord, Take My Hand”

\*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 Voluntary

Grazioso . . . . . Georg Philip Telemann

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

*. . . forever singing to the glory of your name:*

Sanctus (*sung*) . . . . . The Hymnal, 565

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, hosanna in the highest.

Minister: . . . *Great is the mystery of faith:*

Memorial Acclamation (*sung*) . . . . . The Hymnal, 566

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

“Let Us Break Bread Together” . . . . . African American spiritual  
arr. Jane Marshall

*Let us break bread together on our knees; when I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me. Let us drink wine together on our knees; when I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me. Let us praise God together on our knees; when I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.*

Prayer after Communion (*unison*)

O Holy God, through Christ you make all things new.  
We lift our hearts in celebration  
for all that you have given and all that we have received.  
Keep us ever mindful of your abundant love. Amen.

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Bearing the Word into the World

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\*Hymn 379 . . . . . “We Shall Overcome”

\*Benediction and Response

Postlude

Fanfare . . . . . R. Mark Otterstad

## Worship Leaders

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Matt Helms, Roberta Dawson, Judith L. Watt

## The Music Today

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The Chancel Choir; Cole Seaton, soloist  
John W. W. Sherer, Organist and Director of Music  
Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist

## Worship Notes

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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.

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SOURCES AND CREDITS: The Call to Worship is adapted from *Call to Worship: Year B, Liturgy, Music, Preaching and the Arts, 2002*. Hymn tune names—as well as composers of the music and authors of the text—are listed in the hymnal with each hymn. 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.

**Shannon J. Kershner** Pastor  
**Lucy Forster-Smith** Senior Associate Pastor  
Associate Pastors  
**Victoria G. Curtiss** Mission  
**Matt Helms** Children and Family Ministry  
**Nanette Sawyer** Discipleship and Small Group Ministry  
**Rocky Supinger** Youth Ministry  
**Judith L. Watt** Pastoral Care  
**Alex Wirth** Minister for Evangelism  
**Jeffrey Doane** Parish Associate for Older Adults  
**Abbi Heimach-Snipes** Pastoral Resident  
**John Buchanan** Pastor Emeritus

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