

SEEKING THE PRESENCE OF GOD

Welcome Rev. J. Chris Michael

Bringing of the Light

Bell of Mindfulness (Please use this time for quiet reflection)

Prelude *Bound for the Kingdom (from the Sacred Harp)* arr. Giamanco
Ann Jeannette Pierce, piano

*Call to Worship Rev. Bonnie Brown

One: Hold us in your prayerful gaze, O God, as we come to worship;

All: we are your committed people, but we need your inspiration.

One: Remind us of your shadow over us, O God, as we come to worship;

All: you have gone with us in times past, but we need your reassuring presence.

One: Enable us to sense your love around us, O God, as we come to worship;

All: we are filled with thanksgiving, but there are testing times ahead.

One: Enliven us through your Holy Spirit, O God, as we come to worship;

All: we are ready for action, but we need you to work within our faith community.

*Hymn *Come, Thou Almighty King* 27

*Invocation and Lord's Prayer (using "debts" and "debtors") Rev. Brown

Children's Blessing Rev. Michael

First Scripture Matthew 5:38-48 Rev. Brown

Response One: The Word of God for the people of God

All: Thanks be to God.

Pastoral Prayer Rev. Michael

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

Message in Music *Jesus Gives Me Sweet Peace* Reynolds
Mike Tichenor, soloist

Second Scripture Romans 13:8-14

Response One: The Word of God for the people of God

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon *The Day is Near* Rev. Michael

Invitation to Discipleship

*Hymn *Near to the Heart of God (vs. vs. 1, 3)* 581

OFFERING OURSELVES TO GOD

Preparation for the Offering

Offertory *They'll Know We are Christians by Our Love*

Peter Scholtes; arr. Hays

*Doxology and Presentation of Gifts (Page 46)

*Dedication Prayer

RENEWING THE COVENANT IN THE LORD'S SUPPER

We are one in Christ, let everyone share in this communion without regard for denominational affiliation. You are invited to take the cup and bread after your prayers.

Invitation to Communion and Words of Institution Rev. Brown

Communion Hymn *I Love Your Church, O God (vs. 1, 2, 4)* 274

Prayer of Thanksgiving Rev. Brown

Communion Music *He Leadeth Me* Wm. Bradbury; arr. Hoekstra

Serving the Bread and Cup

GOING IN PEACE TO LOVE AND TO SERVE

*Benediction Rev. Michael

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

*Congregational Benediction

Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service (vs. 4) 461

Flowers have been placed on the chancel by Larkin & Carroll Hayden to the glory of God and in honor of Marie Abell and Ellen Hayden.

*Please stand if you are able.

Romans 13:8-14

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, 'You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet'; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.



*Love for One's Neighbor
Detail from Choir Screen*

“Our mission is to manifest Christ’s love by empowering all to compassionate service.”