

PREPARING TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

CHIMES

(The congregation is asked to pray for the blessing of God upon this service.)

God of power, may the boldness of your Spirit transform us, the gentleness of your Spirit lead us, and the gifts of your Spirit be our goal and our strength. Amen.

PRELUDE *Morning Has Broken* Gaelic melody
arr. Martha Lynn Thompson
The Youth Bell Choir

INTROIT *O Sing to the Lord* Brazilian folk melody
The Youth Quartet

O sing to the Lord, O sing God a new song.
O sing to our God. By His holy power our God has done wonders.
O sing to our God.

†CALL TO WORSHIP Sarah Vickers

O sing to the Lord a new song;
Sing to the Lord, all the earth!

**Sing to the Lord, bless his name;
Tell of his salvation from day to day.**

Declare his glory among the nations,
His marvelous works among all the peoples!

**For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;
He is to be feared above all gods.**

For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols,
But the Lord made the heavens.

**Splendor and majesty are before him;
Strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.**

Psalm 96

†OPENING HYMN, No. 469 *Morning Has Broken* BUNESSAN
(Accompanied by the Youth Bell Choir)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION Brett McCulloch

Merciful God, we lower our heads before you and we confess that we have too often forgotten that we are yours. Sometimes we carry on our lives as if there was no God and we fall short of being a credible witness to You. For these things we ask your forgiveness and we also ask for your strength. Give us clear minds and open hearts so we may witness to You in our world. Remind us that You are our God and we are Your people. We should always put you first in our lives. Hold us to You and build our relationship with You and with those You have given us on earth.

(Continue your personal prayer of confession in silence)

KYRIE ELEISON, No. 572 Congregation and Choir

**Lord, have mercy upon us;
Christ, have mercy upon us;
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: God is ever willing to grant us forgiveness but we cannot receive it if we are unwilling to be changed by it. As long as we focus on preserving our own lives, protecting our advantages, we will be lost. This is our assurance. Believe the Good News of the Gospel;

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God.

†ACT OF PRAISE *Gloria Patri* MEINEKE

**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.**

†PASSING OF THE PEACE

Stand, as you are able, and greet one another saying: *“The peace of Christ be with you.”* Respond by saying: *“And also with you.”*
(Children are invited to come forward now for A Time with Children.)

THE WORD

A TIME WITH CHILDREN Mary North Jones and Eva Whited
Children, ages 2-3 yrs. who will be going to Extended Session and children, ages 4–first grade who will be in the the Worship Center, may exit at this time through the right front door, where they will be escorted to the CE Building.

Leader: As you depart from us now, the children of God say:

Children: God be with you as you stay.

Congregation: God be with you as you go.

**We are marching in the light of God,
we are marching in the light of God.**

**We are marching, marching,
we are marching in the light of God.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Molly Hiers

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Proverbs 28:20-25
Pew Bible, page 576; large print, page 750
(Bibles are located in the racks beneath the pews.)

ANTHEM *Be Not Afraid* Craig Courtney
The Youth Quartet

Be not afraid: for I have redeemed you; When you walk through the fire,
Be not afraid: I have called you by name. You will not be consumed;
When you pass through the waters, You are mine, you are precious in my sight.
I will be with you; My love for you is everlasting,
When you pass through the floods, My love for you shall have no end.
They will not sweep o'er you;

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Luke 12: 13-24

Bowen McCulloch

Pew Bible, page 70; large print, page 90

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

DRAMA Youth

HOMILY Bowen McCulloch

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - The 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.

†HYMN, No. 289 *O God of Every Nation* LLANGLOFFAN

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER
Evan Richey

We pray for those whose lives closely touch our own that they may always be in our hearts and have joy and happiness in their lives. We pray for those who sin against us that they know you will forgive them – help us to do the same.

Bless us all, O Lord, and hear our prayer.

We pray with thanks for families, neighbors, teachers, teammates, and all those in our community who support the well-being of others, especially the sick and the needy.

Strengthen them, O Lord, and hear our prayer.

We pray for those who suffer the loss of family, friends and neighbors that they may be comforted by those who love them. Help restore peace and harmony in their hearts. Let them discover Your love through the care and support of others.

Comfort them, O Lord, and hear our prayer.

We pray for the mission of the church; for our Ministers and newly elected Elders and Deacons. We pray for all who proclaim the Gospel to the ends of the earth and for all who seek the Truth.

Strengthen them, O Lord, and hear our prayer.

We pray for all the leaders of the world that they may make wise choices for everyone and that they may lead us to honor one another and serve the common good.

Guide them, O Lord, and hear our prayer.

