

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship (*Responsive*) - *Psalm 100*

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

Serve the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing.

Know that the Lord is God.

It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him; bless his name.

For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever and his faithfulness to all generations.

*Hymn 409

"God Is Here!"

*Hymn 611

"Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"

Prayer of Confession (*Unison*)

(Paul E. Engle, *Baker's Worship Handbook*, 1998)

Almighty Father; we enter your presence confessing the things we try to conceal from you and the things we try to conceal from others. We confess the heartbreak, worry, and sorrow we have caused, that make it difficult for others to forgive us, the times we have made it easy for others to do wrong, the harm we have done that makes it hard for us to forgive ourselves. Lord have mercy and forgive us through Christ. Amen.

Time for silent reflection.

Assurance of Grace (*Responsive*)

(adapted from Psalm 103.8,10-12)

The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in lovingkindness. God has not dealt with us according to our sins, nor rewarded us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His lovingkindness toward those who fear Him. As far as the east is from the west, so far has God removed our transgressions from us. ***Amen!***

Response: ***"Glory Be To The Father"***

Special Music

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

*Hymn 644

"Morning Has Broken"

Prayer for Illumination (*Unison*)

Gracious God, as we turn to your Word for us, may the Spirit of God rest upon us. Help us to be steadfast in our hearing, in our speaking, in our believing, and in our living. Amen.

First Lesson:

Psalm 96

Second Lesson:

Colossians 3:12-17

Litany of Praise (*Responsive*)

Oh sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things!

His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

The Lord has made known his salvation; he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody!

With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord!

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who dwell in it!

Let the rivers clap their hands; let the hills sing for joy together before the Lord, for he comes to judge the earth.

He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

Oh, magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together!

(-Psalm 98; 34:1, 3 (ESV) adapted from *The Baptist Hymnal*, Copyright 1991 Convention Press)

Offering

Doxology

Covenant Renewal Litany (Responsive)

Every day we journey on this earth is a day in which we make choices:

left or right, up or down, in or out, yes or no?

Some choices are simple, and some are very complex, but one choice informs all the others:

Who will be our God? Who will we trust to see us through this journey?

Who has been with us from before the beginning, bringing us into existence?

Who has loved us and blessed us and sent us on our way?

Who has pointed us toward the path and posted the signs we need to find our way?

Who has been at our side when the road has been smooth and gently curving?

Who has kept with us through hairpin turns and construction zones and potholes and detours?

Who will celebrate with us when we complete our course and seek the comfort of eternity?

Only One. The One and Only.

Holy One. The One and Holy.

Will you choose this day to stay faithful to the One who is faithful to us?

Count us in.

Will you choose this day to place your whole trust in the One who is trustworthy?

Count us in.

Will you choose this day to commit your talents and your resources to the One who first endowed them?

Count us in.

Will you choose this day to love the One who loved us first?

Count us in.

Praying together,

We devote ourselves to you by renewing the covenant—the promise you made to humanity so long ago. Because you are our God, we will be your people. Enlarge our faithfulness, our trust, our commitment and our love so that we may graciously uphold our side of the deal. Help us always to recognize your presence and your blessings throughout our journey. Keep us in your care. Amen.

*Hymn 821

“My Life Flows”

*Hymn 32

“I Sing the Mighty Power of God”

Benediction (Unison)

May the strength of God sustain us; may the power of God preserve us; may the hands of God protect us; may the way of God direct us; may the love of God go with us this day and forever more. Amen.