



**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Come, let us gather in the presence of our Lord,  
even in the midst of our struggles,  
and remember the call to 'Rejoice in the Lord always,'

**for our joy is found in God, not in our  
circumstances.**

**We lift our voices in praise and thanksgiving,  
knowing that the Lord is with us at all times.**

Come as you are, and find welcome.  
Unbrace yourselves in the presence of  
our God who gives us rest.

**Breathing in, we receive peace.  
Breathing out, we express joy.**

**HYMN #611 *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee***

**PRAYER OF PRAISE**—from Psalm 19, the Message  
translation

***God's glory is on tour in the skies,  
God-craft on exhibit across the horizon.  
Madame Day holds classes every morning,  
Professor Night lectures each evening.  
Their words aren't heard,  
their voices aren't recorded,  
but their silence fills the earth:  
unspoken truth is spoken everywhere.  
That's how God's Word vaults across the skies  
from sunrise to sunset,  
warming hearts to faith.***

***The revelation of God is whole  
and pulls our lives together.  
The signposts of God are clear  
and point out the right road.  
The life-maps of God are right,  
showing the way to joy.  
The directions of God are plain  
and easy on the eyes.***

***These are the words in my mouth;  
these are what I chew on and pray.  
Accept them when I place them  
on the morning altar,  
O God, my Rock, my Redeemer.***

**RESPONSE (insert) *Psalm 19 (May the Words of My  
Mouth)***

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND REFLECTION**

**Gracious God, source of all life, giver of  
mercy and grace, hear our prayer.  
We come before you in need of healing:  
the healing of our bodies and souls,  
the healing of our relationships,  
the healing of our pride and fear and apathy.  
We know that with you, nothing is impossible,  
not even our healing,  
not even the restoration of the whole world.  
We pray that you will heal us,  
that you will heal our world,  
so that we will be freed  
to serve and love and dream and be,  
as Christ calls us.**

(silent prayer and reflection)

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Take comfort in the assurance  
that even those things that are hidden from memory,  
or are too deep for our words,  
are not beyond God's forgiving love.  
God, who knows us completely,  
bestows pardon and peace.

**Thanks be to God!**

**PASSING THE PEACE**

**HYMN #308 *O God in Whom All Life Begins***

**SPECIAL MUSIC** *On Eagle's Wings*  
- Dan Woodworth, soloist

**SCRIPTURE READINGS** Matthew 5:43-48  
Ephesians 4:25-5:2

**MESSAGE** Imitators of God

**HYMN #316** *Where Charity and Love Prevail*

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

*Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your 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 yours is the kingdom,  
and the power,  
and the glory  
now and forever. Amen.*

**HYMN #546** *Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing*

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**