# MAPLEWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ovember 24, 2024

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME

# **CALL TO WORSHIP**

In our personal lives we are seeking light. In our neighborhoods we are seeking light. In our households and families we are seeking light. In our work we are seeking light. In our nation we are seeking light. In our world we are seeking light In... [add your own longings] we are seeking light.

Jesus, you are the light of the world, and you call us to follow you that we may become light to the world. Meet us in this time of worship, and let your light shine upon us!

HYMN #749 Come, Live in the Light

# SHARING OUR GRATITUDE

**RESPONSE #647** Give Thanks

# PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

God of love: may your light shine on your people today, as it shone in each moment of history.

We desire to live in your light and not in shadows, which seem safe and comfortable. We desire to shine our light and not hide it as we sometimes do, out of fear or selfishness.

May the light of your presence inspire our lives to recognize you as source of all creation, as strength that sustains, as sap that nurtures, as wisdom that guides, as clarity that discovers, as love that understands, as mercy that forgives.

(silent prayer and reflection)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE —from Isaiah 42:6-8, the Message translation

The Lord says, "I am God. I have called you to live right and well. I have taken responsibility for you, kept you safe. I have set you among the people to bind them to me, and provided you as a lighthouse to the patients.

and provided you as a lighthouse to the nations, to make a start at bringing people into the open, into light!"

Beloved of God, be encouraged! God has brought you into the light—of his love, of forgiveness, and freedom to serve and do the good work he calls us to do.

Thanks be to God!

# PASSING THE PEACE

## HYMN #37 Let All Things Now Living

- **SPECIAL MUSIC** All Good Gifts - Emily Lauckhart, soloist - David Little, piano
- SCRIPTURE READINGS Matthew 5:14-16 Ephesians 5:8-20
- MESSAGE Children of Light
- HYMN #767 Together We Serve

## 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 #643 Now Thank We All Our God

BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE