



THE ORDER OF WORSHIP - 9:30AM - 10:30AM

**March 13, 2016**

The Worship of God: A Celebration of God's Love

Acts of Gathering in God's Grace

Welcome

\*Gathering Song "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" No. 11 Cel

\* Responsive call to worship

One: Like Zacchaeus in the Bible, we come with curiosity, we want to see Jesus in our time.

**Many: The Spirit of God is among us; we will not fear, but will take courage.**

One: God's love is for all. Those who are afflicted are finally given rest.

**Many: God can give us resolve for good, that we may respond to the work of faith with energy.**

One: God invites us to this time of reflection, learning, and fellowship that we might celebrate our mission for the common good.

**Many: We are sent out to seek and save the lost; that in the going out, we also find ourselves as a part of the ministry of Jesus in our time.**

\*Hymn "Lift High the Cross" No. 450 Cel

\*Prayer of Presence: (*unison*)

Gracious God, draw us near to experience your goodness.

Abide among us, to still our fears,  
as so much in these times seems to be shaken.

Give us courage to look at the people of the world  
in new ways, through the eyes of Jesus.

Help us see the potential transformation to which you call us.

Unite us with Christians around the world in worship, praise, and fellowship. Amen.

A Reading from Scripture: Psalm 121: 1-8 Page 571 OT

Time with Youth:

Prayer

Acts of Giving and Receiving

Offertory:

\*Doxology:

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;*

*Praise Him all creatures here below;*

*Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;*

*Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Prayer of Dedication (unison)

**Through what we give, bless those who are poor. Grant to the fearful, courage; to the oppressed, deliverance; to the confused, new clarity and direction. May the outreach supported by these gifts make You known in ways that are life changing. Amen**

Sung Response: "Turn My Heart O God"

Acts of Confession

\*A Creed of Christianity for the Day:

\*One: We consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the wonder about to be made known to us.

**Many: We know that all things work together for good, for those who love God, for those who are called according to the purposes of God.**

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? God did not hold back his own Son, but gave him up for all of us. It is God who justifies.

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through God who loves us.

For I am convinced that neither death nor life, not angels or rulers, not times present, not things to come, no powers, not height, not depth, not anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Savior! *Affirmation from Paul's letter to Rome, Chapter 8*

Acts of Proclaiming God's Word

A Reading from Scripture: Luke 19: 1-10 Page 82 NT

Anthem "Praeludium" Fischer  
Tana Van Slyke

Sermon and Pastoral Prayer

Prayer of Our Savior:

*Our Father, who art in heaven. Hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come. Thy 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 thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.*

\*Hymn "The Old Rugged Cross" No. 327 Cel

\*Benediction

**\*WE STAND AS WE ARE COMFORTABLY ABLE**