



GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

WELCOME & OPENING SENTENCES

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

PRELUDE

Lift High the Cross, arr. G. Young¹

CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 26

Leader: Sing a song of thanksgiving.

People: Declare God's wondrous deeds.

Leader: For the Lord dwells among the people;

People: the glory of God abides with us.

PRAYER OF ADORATION

***HYMN 624**

I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art, Toulon²

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

God of mercy,

**we confess that, like the disciples,
we set our minds not on divine things
but on human things.**

**Doubting your loving care, we grab for
more than we need.**

**Doubting your loving purposes, we shrink
from living as your followers.**

**Doubting your loving plan, we become
stumbling blocks in your creation.**

**Forgive us that we may gain new life in you,
for it is in Jesus' forgiving name we pray
(continue with silent confession). Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Jesus took up his cross for our salvation.

People: In return for our old life, he promises a new life of grace.

Leader: Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

People: Thanks be to God!

*ACCLAMATION HYMN 581

Glory Be to the Father, Gloria Patri³

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 THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Please turn to the back wall and wave to our online worshippers, offering them the peace of Christ and then greet each other.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalm 26:1-8

Vindicate me, O Lord, for I have walked in my integrity, and I have trusted in the Lord without wavering.

Prove me, O Lord, and try me; test my heart and mind.

For your steadfast love is before my eyes, and I walk in faithfulness to you.

I do not sit with the worthless, nor do I consort with hypocrites;

I hate the company of evildoers and will not sit with the wicked.

I wash my hands in innocence, and go around your altar, O Lord,

singing aloud a song of thanksgiving and telling all your wondrous deeds.

O Lord, I love the house in which you dwell, and the place where your glory abides.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Matthew 16:21-28

From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your

mind not on divine things but on human things.”

Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? “For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

SERMON

The Cross at a Crossroads

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***HYMN 718**

*Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said, Bourbon*⁴

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer

PRAYER RESPONSE HYMN 184

*Calm to the Waves, Calm Seas*⁵

CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP

OFFERTORY SENTENCES

OFFERTORY

*O Love that Will Not Let Me Go, arr. L. Shackley*⁶

***DEDICATION HYMN 607** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow, Old Hundredth*⁷
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ all people here below; praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

Almighty God, receive these gifts that we offer with grateful hearts and use us for your ministry in the world, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

***HYMN 720**

*Jesus Calls Us, Galilee*⁸

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian, arr. J. Lucas⁹

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Leaders Today:



Pastor: Rev. Scott Anderson

Liturgist: Karen Stephens

Minister of Music: Joe Chrisman

AV/Tech: John Tarr

Dorothy Blotz, piano

Ushers/Greeters: Doug & Juanita Halls, Sue Dornfeld, Karen Stephens (Deacon)