



~The Gathering~

Prelude

Sandell
Tami Newsom, organ

Dale Wood

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Greeting

Rev. Matt Nieman

Call to Worship

Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.
God's steadfast love endures forever.
Maintain justice and do what is right.
God our Savior is coming soon.
Let us worship God.

Opening Hymn #487

When Morning Gilds the Skies

Laudes Domini

**When morning gilds the skies, my heart awaking cries:
May Jesus Christ be praised! Alike at work and prayer
To Jesus I repair: May Jesus Christ be praised!**

**Does sadness fill my mind? A solace here I find:
May Jesus Christ be praised! Or fades my earthly bliss?
My comfort still is this: May Jesus Christ be praised!**

**Let earth's wide circle round in joyful notes resound:
May Jesus Christ be praised! Let air and sea and sky
From depth to height reply: May Jesus Christ be praised!**

**Be this, while life is mine, my canticle divine:
May Jesus Christ be praised! Be this the eternal song
Through all the ages long: May Jesus Christ be praised!**

Text: German hymn, c. 1800, Trans. Edward Caswall, 1863, 1858; alt., Music: Joseph Barnby, 1868
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Prayer of Confession

Have mercy on us, Lord Jesus; we cannot take back what we have said or undo what we have done or atone for the agony we have caused. We are haunted by the past, plagued by the present, and fearful of the future. We shrink from your gaze as strangers outside your circle of blessing. Yet the faith you have planted in us reaches out for your favor, returns to your presence, and hungers for your mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

Passing of the Peace

~The Word~

Prayer for Illumination

Mason Warren

Merciful Savior, your suffering has saved our lives, secured our future, and restored us to relationship with God. Remove the shame and fear that cause us to cower in your presence. By the power of your Spirit, open our eyes and hearts to your Word of love, mercy, healing, and blessing, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

First Scripture Reading: Genesis 45:1-15

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 133

Dr. Angela Batey, cantor

Daw



How good and pleasant it is to live in u - ni - ty.

Oh, how good and pleasant it is, when brethren live together in unity!
It is like fine oil upon the head that runs down upon the beard,
Upon the beard of Aaron, and runs down upon the collar of his robe. **(R)**

It is like the dew of Hermon that falls upon the hills of Zion.
For there the Lord has ordained the blessing: life for evermore. **(R)**

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Second Scripture Reading: Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“A Bit of Good News”

Rev. Matt Nieman

~The Response~

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and
buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he
ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

The Anthem

His Eye is on the Sparrow
Ashley Boone, flute ~ Tami Newsom, piano

arr. Jack Schrader

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Call for the Offering

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

~The Sending~

Closing Hymn #438

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

Dennis

**Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love:
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.**

**Before our Father's throne we pour our ardent prayers;
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts and our cares.**

**We share our mutual woes, our mutual burdens bear,
And often for each other flows the sympathizing tear.**

**From sorrow, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free;
And perfect love and friendship reign through all eternity.**

Text: John Fawcett, 1782, Music: Johann Georg Nägeli (1773-1836), arr. Lowell Mason, 1845
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Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Trumpet March in D

William Rowan

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