

May 8, 2022

## **GOD WELCOMES US**

### **Welcome**

#### **Call to Worship** (based on Psalm 119:1-8)

One: Happy are those who walk in God's ways.

**All: Blessed are those who observe God's commandments.**

One: Faithful are those whose eyes are fixed on righteousness.

**All: Joyful are those whose hearts are filled with praise.**

One: Come, let us love the Lord our God.

**All: Let's worship the One who leads us in the ways of life.**

### **Song:**

#### **O Give the Lord Wholehearted Praise** (LUYH 502)

O give the LORD wholehearted praise. To him thanksgiving I will bring;  
with all his people I will raise my voice and of his glory sing.

His saints delight to search and trace, his mighty works and wondrous ways.  
Majestic glory, boundless grace, and righteousness his work displays.

God's wondrous deeds of faithfulness, his people ever keep in mind.  
His works of love and graciousness reveal that God the LORD is kind.

His works are true and just indeed; his precepts are forever sure  
In truth and righteousness decreed. They shall forevermore endure.

#### **Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 2:13**

"We also constantly give thanks to God for this, that when you received the word of God that you heard from us, you accepted it not as a human word but as what it really is, God's word, which is also at work in you believers."

Let's receive God's holy Word, believe it and obey it. We are here in God's presence, so let's open our hearts wide to him.

### **Song:**

#### **Ancient Words** (LUYH 762)

Holy words long preserved for our walk in this world,  
they resound with God's own heart, O let the ancient words impart.  
Words of life, words of hope, give us strength, help us cope.  
In this world where'er we roam ancient words will guide us home.

Ancient words, ever true, changing me and changing you.  
We have come with open hearts, O let the ancient words impart.

Holy words of our faith handed down to this age came to us through sacrifice.  
O heed the faithful words of Christ. Holy words long preserved for our walk in this  
world, they resound with God's own heart. O let the ancient words impart.

Ancient words, ever true, changing me and changing you.  
We have come with open hearts, O let the ancient words impart. (2x)

**Scripture: John 6:33-35**

"...the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always." Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

To be hungry for God's Word is a good thing. Then we can know the life we are meant to live in and through Jesus Christ, the bread of heaven.

**Song:**

**Gift of Finest Wheat (LUYH 815)**

*Refrain*

You satisfy the hungry heart with gift of finest wheat.  
Come, give to us, O saving Lord, the bread of life to eat.

As when a shepherd calls his sheep, they know and heed his voice;  
so when you call your family, Lord, we follow and rejoice.

With joyful lips we sing to you our praise and gratitude,  
that you should count us worthy, Lord, to share this heavenly food.

The mystery of your presence, Lord, no mortal tongue can tell:  
whom all the world cannot contain comes in our hearts to dwell.

You give yourself to us, O Lord; then selfless let us be  
to serve each other in your name in truth and charity.

**Prayer of Praise, Confession, and Pardon**

Jesus, we look to you as food and life to our souls. Our spirits wait for you, the living Word. Almighty God, we confess that we have not always understood Your commandments and sometimes have taken them and turned them into rules. We definitely have criticized those who fall short but selfishly proclaim ourselves righteous. We have failed to understand the spirit of the commandments and the Way that You showed us to live – to love God and love our neighbours. Forgive us for turning Your law into burdens for others and ourselves, instead of a Way to love and know freedom in You. Ground us again, Holy One, in the written wisdom of Scripture and in the living Word which is Christ Jesus. Through Your Holy Spirit, continue the work that You have begun in us, so that what we say and do may bring honour and glory to You. In the name of Christ, who is the Way, the Truth and the Life. Lead us on, we pray. Amen.

## **GOD GIVES US HIS WORD**

The scriptures say that Christ Jesus has become for us wisdom from God, and our righteousness and our redemption. Thanks be to God that, through Christ, our sins are forgiven. May the peace of Christ always be with you. Amen.

**Scripture:** Matthew 5:17-48

**Message:** "Be Perfect, Or Exceeding the Righteousness of the Pharisees"

**Song of Response:**

**May the Mind of Christ My Saviour** (LUYH 334)

May the mind of Christ, my Saviour, live in me from day to day,  
by his love and power controlling all I do and say.

May the word of God dwell richly in my heart from hour to hour,  
so that all may see I triumph only through his power.

May the love of Jesus fill me as the waters fill the sea.  
Him exalting, self abasing: this is victory.

May we run the race before us, strong and brave to face the foe,  
looking only unto Jesus as we onward go.

## **GOD SENDS US OUT TO SERVE**

**Prayers of the People and Offering**

**Benediction**

**Benediction Song:**

**O God, You are my God** (LUYH 743)

O God, you are my God, and I will ever praise you.

O God, you are my God, and I will ever praise you.

I will seek you in the morning, and I will learn to walk in your ways.  
And step by step you'll lead me, and I will follow you all of my days.

(3x)