

WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD'S LOVE

GREETING (RUTH 1:16-17)

"Do not press me to leave you or to turn back from following you! Where you go, I will go; Where you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God my God. Where you die, I will die— there will I be buried. May the Lord do thus and so to me, and more as well, if even death parts me from you!"

WELCOME / OPENING PRAYER

✦CALL TO WORSHIP (BASED ON PSALM 50:1-5)

Leader: The mighty one, God the LORD, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

People: *Out of Zion, God shines forth.*

Leader: Our God comes and does not keep silence, before him is a devouring fire, and a mighty tempest all around him. He calls to the heavens above and to the earth,

People: *"Gather to me my faithful ones."*

✦SONG OF PRAISE

LET IT BE SAID OF US, w/m by Steve Fry

CALL TO CONFESSION (2 CORINTHIANS 4:5-6)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, we enter your presence humbly, aware that we approach you from a world that chooses to walk in darkness, apart from you. We confess that we have praised you with our lips but have not glorified you with our lives. Our faith is weak and fades under pressure. Forgive us for our quick enthusiasm that just as quickly dies, and for the hopes we proclaim but do not pursue. Have mercy on us and give us new trust in your power. Help us to live with the comfort of your love and confidently act with the compassion of your love. Hear now our silent prayers of confession...

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (EPHESIANS 1:3-7)

✦GRATEFUL RESPONSE

HYMN # 34 – *THE DOXOLOGY*

✦PASSING OF THE PEACE

"May the peace of Christ be with you....And, also with you"

At this time, the congregation may greet each other and exchange signs of peace.

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S LOVE

SCRIPTURE READING

2 KINGS 2:1-12

Linda Murphy, reader

Leader: Blessed are those who hear and keep what is written, in the light of Jesus, the Word made flesh.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

All children are invited to come to the front for the Children's Message. Afterwards, preschool and elementary-aged children may go to Children's Chapel.

(As the children come forward for the Children's message, ushers will collect any written prayer requests. Forms are located in the pew pockets near the center aisle. Please raise your hand to let the ushers know to collect your prayer request.)

✦SONG OF FAITH

HYMN # 520 – *SWING LOW, SWEET CHARIOT*

SCRIPTURE READING

MARK 9:2-9

SERMON

"IT IS ALSO TRUE THAT..."

Pastor Brad

WE EMBRACE GOD'S LOVE

OFFERING

In response to God's love, we are invited to reflect on how we might give thanks to God through the sharing of our time, talents, and treasures. (During this time, offering plates will be passed down the pews. There is no obligation to give. You may also choose to indicate your presence or desire to connect by placing a blue connect card in the offering plate.)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, 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

WE ARE SENT OUT TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE IN THE WORLD

✦CHARGE AND BLESSING (GENESIS 22:14)

✦GRATEFUL RESPONSE

JIREH, w/m by Furtick, Brown, Raine, and Moore

✦POSTLUDE

✦Those who are able, are invited to stand.