

GOD GATHERS US

Preparation for Worship

*God of mercy,
grant that the Word you speak this day
may take root in our hearts,
and bear fruit to your honor and glory,
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.*

Prelude Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah (arr. Kelleher)

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship**

One We worship God with song and dance,

All singing God's praise and shouting for joy.

One We worship God with silence and sighs,

All grieving for loss and longing for comfort.

One We worship God with prayers and hands,

All praying for healing and working for peace.

One Let us create a sabbath space

All and worship the God who gives us life.

***Opening Prayer**

***Opening Hymn #482** *Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty*

Call to Confession

Moment of Silent Confession

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon (*1 Peter 2:24*)

One He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

All Thanks be to God!

***Gloria Patri #579**

Invitation to Offering

GOD SPEAKS TO US

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Readings

Amos 7:7-15

*God shows the prophet Amos a plumb line,
a vision of justice.*

Ephesians 1:3-14

*We were chosen in Christ from the
beginning to give glory to God.*

Mark 6:14-29

*Herod puts John the Baptist to death;
reports of Jesus spread.*

Sermon

Pastor Christopher Stewart

WE RESPOND

***Affirmation of Faith** *(from A Brief Statement of Faith)*

All We trust in God the Holy Spirit,
everywhere the giver and renewer of life.
The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,
sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and
neighbor,
and binds us together with all believers
in the one body of Christ, the church.
The same Spirit
who inspired the prophets and apostles
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,
engages us through the Word proclaimed,
claims us in the waters of baptism,
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
and calls women and men to all ministries of the church.

All In a broken and fearful world
the Spirit gives us courage
to pray without ceasing,
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,
to unmask idolatries in church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.
In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks
and to live holy and joyful lives,
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,
praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

With believers in every time and place,
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our
Lord.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer

All 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; 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.

GOD SENDS US

***Closing Hymn #333** *Seek Ye First*

***Closing Prayer/Sending**

***Blessing**

***The Peace**

May the peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you!

***Postlude**

**Please stand, as able*