

PRELUDE "The Peace May Be Exchanged: -Locklair

## **OPENING SENTENCES**

O people, praise our God-the Artist of creation,
the Lord of heaven and earth.

We worship our Maker with resounding praise!
In God we live and move and have our being;
it is the Lord who gives us life and breath.

God has kept us among the living
And not let our feet slip.
God formed all people to seek the Lord;
indeed, our Creator is never far away.

Bless the Lord, who is faithful to us!

# HYMN #12 Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Immortal, invisible, God only wise, In light in accessible hid from our eyes, Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, Almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

#### CALL TO CONFESSION

Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

"If you love me, you will keep my commandments," you said. And, in the same breath, you promised an Advocate would come to us. You, Lord, were faithful to your promise. But we — we have broken your law of love. We have hoarded resources, rather than feeding your flock. We have stoked competition, rather than kneeling at others' feet. We have kept silent, rather than testifying to our belief.

For not showing our love for you by loving one another, forgive us.
Help us obey your commandments and keep us ever faithful to your Word by the power of your Spirit, who abides with and among us.

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God is light; in God there is no darkness at all.

If we say that we have fellowship with Christ while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true. But if we walk in the light as Christ himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus cleanses us from all sin.

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel. **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven** 

GLORIA PATRI

SOLO: "Morning Has Broken" Karen D'Angelo

Hymn # 300 We Are One In the Spirit

We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord; We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord, And we pray that all unity may one day be restored: And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love; Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come, And all praise to Christ Jesus, God's only Son, And all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one: And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love; Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

READING: 1 Peter 3:13-22

<sup>13</sup>Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good? <sup>14</sup>But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. "Do not fear their threats; do not be frightened." 15 But in your hearts revere Christ as LORD. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, <sup>16</sup>keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander. <sup>17</sup>For it is better, if it is God's will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil. 18 For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive in the Spirit. <sup>19</sup>After being made alive, he went and made proclamation to the imprisoned spirits- 20 to those who were disobedient long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water, <sup>21</sup> and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also-not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a clear conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, 22who has gone into

heaven and is at God's right hand-with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.

Guitar solo Jim McCarthy

SERMON

HYMN: #318 In Christ There Is No East or West

In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north, But one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide earth.

Join hands, disciples of the faith, what e'er your race may be. All children of the living God are surely kin to me.

## PASTORAL PRAYER

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.

## CALL TO THE OFFERING

Remember these words of Scripture from Acts 20:35: "we must help the weak, remembering the words the LORD Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.' "

#### **OFFERING**

OFFERTORY SONG: "Spirit Open My Heart" - Karen D'Angelo

**DOXOLOGY** 

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Generous and loving God, we remember. We remember the others who have encouraged us. Many people have taught us. We have been forgiven. We have been loved. We admit that we haven't done it all ourselves. In a way, this offering is a response to all that has come before us. We pray that the money will be used to encourage, to teach, to forgive, and to love in Jesus' name. **Amen.** 

# HYMN # # 366 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down, Fix in us thy humble dwelling; all thy faithful mercies crown. Jesus, thou art all compassion; pure, unbounded love thou art; Visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.

POSTLUDE "Immortal, Invisibl" -Burkhardt

Organist: Jeff Seekins Music: Karen D'Angelo

James McCarthy

Pastor: Jim Hardy