

OPENING SENTENCES

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

PRELUDE

O God, Thou Faithful God, J. Brahms

CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 5

Leader: Give ear to my words, O Lord; give heed to my sighing, for to you I pray.

People: **For you are not a God who delights in wickedness or sojourns with evil.**

Leader: But I, through the abundance of your steadfast love will enter your house.

People: **Lead me, O Lord, in your righteousness and make your way straight before me.**

Leader: Let the righteous be joyful! Let them rejoice before God.

People: **Let us worship God!**

HYMN 415

Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy, Restoration

1 Come, ye sinners, poor and needy,
weak and wounded, sick and sore;
Jesus ready stands to save you,
full of pity, love, and power.

3 Come, ye weary, heavy laden,
lost and ruined by the fall;
if you tarry till you're better,
you will never come at all. [Refrain]

Refrain:

**I will arise and go to Jesus;
he will embrace me in his arms.
In the arms of my dear Savior,
O there are ten thousand charms.**

4 Let not conscience make you linger,
nor of fitness fondly dream;
all the fitness he requireth
is to feel your need of him. [Refrain]

2 Come, ye thirsty, come, and welcome;
God's free bounty glorify,
true belief and true repentance,
every grace that brings you nigh. [Refrain]

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

O God, we are no better than our ancestors in the faith who tried to justify themselves through their good works. We compare ourselves with obvious sinners, and congratulate ourselves on our virtues. We exaggerate our own faithfulness while discounting the kind deeds of others. By what we do and what we neglect we fail to live as your children. We pray, O God, for your pardon as we now pray in silence and make our confession more personal. (continue with silent confession...). Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: God hears the longing of our souls for the living God. Forgiveness is ours, along with reason for hope. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. As we have been forgiven, let us also offer forgiveness to those who wrong us and let us rejoice in God's steadfast love.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Amy Poland

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

Luke 7:36-50

One of the Pharisees asked Jesus to eat with him, and he went into the Pharisee's house and took his place at the table. And a woman in the city, who was a sinner, having learned that he was eating in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster jar of ointment. She stood behind him at his feet, weeping, and began to bathe his feet with her tears and to dry them with her hair. Then she continued kissing his feet and anointing them with the ointment. Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw it, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what kind of woman this is who is touching him—that she is a sinner." Jesus spoke up and said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." "Teacher," he replied, "Speak." "A certain creditor had two debtors; one owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. When they could not pay, he canceled the debts for both of them. Now which of them will love him more?" Simon answered, "I suppose the one for whom he canceled the greater debt." And Jesus said to him, "You have judged rightly." Then turning toward the woman, he said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has bathed my feet with her tears and dried them with her hair. You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not stopped kissing my feet. You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. Therefore, I tell you, her sins, which were many, have been forgiven; hence she has shown great love. But the one to whom little is forgiven, loves little." Then he said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." But those who were at the table with him began to say among themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?" And he said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

SERMON

"Do you see this woman?"

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (unison)

From A Brief Statement of Faith PC(USA)

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life...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!"

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys and Concerns,
Pastoral Prayer,
The Lord's Prayer

CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP

HYMN 435

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy, In Babilone

1 There's a wideness in God's mercy,
like the wideness of the sea.
There's a kindness in God's justice,
which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth's sorrows
are more felt than up in heaven.
There is no place where earth's failings
have such kindly judgment given.

2 For the love of God is broader
than the measures of the mind.
And the heart of the Eternal
is most wonderfully kind.
If our love were but more faithful,
we would gladly trust God's Word,
and our lives reflect thanksgiving
for the goodness of our Lord.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Fugue in D Major, G.F. Handel

Leaders Today

Pastor.....Rev. Clara D. Thompson
Liturgist.....Richard Appen
Minister of Music Joe Chrisman
AV/Tech.....John Tarr