

**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**

*Vivace in B-Flat, M. Greene*

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Inspired by Psalm 138

Leader: We gather to give thanks to You, O Lord, with all our heart!

**People: We will sing Your praises before all creation, and rejoice in Your steadfast love!**

Leader: You have created us O Lord, and made us for Yourself.

**People: In You we become everything You have made us to be!**

**HYMN 310**

*I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord, St. Thomas*

1 I love thy kingdom, Lord, the house of thine abode,  
the church our blest Redeemer saved with his own precious blood.

2 I love thy church, O God. Her walls before thee stand,  
dear as the apple of thine eye, and graven on thy hand.

3 For her my tears shall fall; for her my prayers ascend;  
to her my cares and toils be given, till toils and cares shall end.

4 Beyond my highest joy I prize her heavenly ways:  
her sweet communion, solemn vows, her hymns of love and praise.

5 Sure as thy truth shall last, to Zion shall be given  
the brightest glories earth can yield, and brighter bliss of heaven.

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (unison)

**Forgive us, Lord, when we are closed and locked up with negative acts, thoughts and emotions. Help us not to be imprisoned by fear, hatred, prejudice, unforgiveness, pride, greed, anger and selfishness, but open our hearts to the values of Your Kingdom. Open our eyes to see Your Kingdom and help us to be an active part of it. Open our ears to those who cry for help and justice** *(continue with silent confession...)*. Amen

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Leader: The steadfast love of the Lord never ends. When we call out to God, God answers.

**People: God saves us with a strong and outstretched hand. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and helped to live in grace. Amen.**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**SCRIPTURE**

Matthew 16:13-20

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

**SERMON**

*Who Do You Say That I Am?*

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

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

**CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP**

**HYMN 718**

*Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said, Bourbon*

1 Take up your cross, the Savior said,  
if you would my disciple be;  
take up your cross with willing heart,  
and humbly follow after me.

3 Take up your cross; heed not the shame,  
and let your foolish pride be still;  
the Lord for you accepted death  
upon a cross, on Calvary's hill.

2 Take up your cross; let not its weight  
fill your weak spirit with alarm;  
Christ's strength shall bear your spirit up  
and brace your heart and nerve your arm.

4 Take up your cross, then, in Christ's strength,  
and calmly every danger brave:  
it guides you to abundant life  
and leads to victory o'er the grave.

**CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

*Lord of All Hopefulness, J. Struther*

***Leaders Today***

Pastor.....	Pastor Scott Anderson
Liturgist.....	Richard Appen
Minister of Music .....	Joe Chrisman
AV/Tech.....	John Tarr