

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

Voluntary, G.F. Handel

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Jesus said: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and you shall love your neighbor as yourself.

People: On these two commandments hang all of the law and the prophets.

HYMN 275

1 A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing. Our helper he, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.

For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe. His craft and power are great, and armed with cruel hate, on earth is not his equal.

2 Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing, were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing.

Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he. Lord Sabaoth his name, from age to age the same, and he must win the battle.

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God, Ein Feste Burg

3 And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us, we will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to triumph through us.

The Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him. His rage we can endure, for lo, his doom is sure. One little word shall fell him.

4 That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth. The Spirit and the gifts are ours through him who with us sideth.

Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also. The body they may kill; God's truth abideth still. His kingdom is forever.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Your holiness, O God, commands that we confess: We have neither loved our neighbors as ourselves nor honored ourselves as your beloved creation. We have judged unjustly, regarded others ungenerously, profited at the losses of those near and distant, borne grudges, desired vengeance, and kept silence in the face of wrongdoing. We long to live in accord with your desire that your way of compassion, kindness, and honesty will govern our hearts and minds, turning us toward lives of peace. Forgive us and lead us *(silent confession continues...)* **Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Brothers and sisters, the Holy One who promises forgiveness to those who seek the good hears your confession. As the crucified and risen child of God, your Redeemer fully knows your sorrow and your desire for reconciled relationships. You are forgiven.

People: In that promise is the power to love our neighbors and yourselves as beloved of God who created all that exists.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Leviticus 19:1-2,15-18

The Lord spoke to Moses, saying: Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them: You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy. You shall not render an unjust judgment; you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbor. You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not profit by the blood of your neighbor: I am the Lord. You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin; you shall reprove your neighbor, or you will incur guilt yourself. You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Matthew 22:34-46

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: "What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." He said to them, "How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying, 'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet"'? If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?" No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

SERMON

Finding Connection in a Lonely World

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

MINUTE FOR STEWARDSHIP - MISSION

Pamela Wilson

CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP

HYMN 729

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian, Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

1 Lord, I want to be a Christian
in my heart, in my heart;
Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.
In my heart, (In my heart,) in my heart (in my heart,)
Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

3 Lord, I want to be more holy
in my heart, in my heart;
Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.
In my heart, (In my heart,) in my heart (in my heart,)
Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.

2 Lord, I want to be more loving
in my heart, in my heart;
Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.
In my heart, (In my heart,) in my heart (in my heart,)
Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.

4 Lord, I want to be like Jesus
in my heart, in my heart;
Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.
In my heart, (In my heart,) in my heart (in my heart,)
Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me, arr. J. Chrisman

Leaders Today

Preacher..... Pastor Scott Anderson
Liturgist..... Lucia Hayes & Jeff Hayes
Minister of Music Joe Chrisman
AV/Tech.....John Tarr