

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

AS WE GATHER: Are you tired? Are you burdened? Do you feel weary? We gather today for worship surrounded by God's beautiful creation. Be refreshed and renewed! Jesus also refreshes us. Jesus says to you: "Come unto Me.....and I will give you rest." As we come to Jesus in faith, He takes our burdens upon Himself and gives us rest for our souls. May He bless us as we gather today before Him!

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

STARTING WITH PRAISE

Psalm 41:13

P: Blessed be the Lord,

C: The God of Israel,

P: From everlasting to everlasting!

C: Amen.

OPENING SONG – *"Morning Has Broken"*

1. Morning has broken like the first morning,
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them springing fresh from the Word!
2. Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,
Like the first dew-fall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
Sprung in completeness where His feet pass.
3. Mine is the sun-light! Mine is the morning,
Born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, praise ev'ry morning,
God's recreation of the new day!

OPENING UP TO GOD AND ONE ANOTHER

P: Jesus invites you: "Come to Me, all who labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest.

C: Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."

P: Let us come to Jesus in a time of silent prayer.

We reflect upon our need for Jesus' rest and forgiveness.

P: Almighty God, heavenly Father,

C: We confess that we are burdened by our sin. What we want to do, we don't do. What we end up doing, we know that we are not supposed to do. We feel trapped. Your Word teaches us that we cannot escape our sinfulness. Only in Your mercy is there rest for our souls and relief from the burdens of our hearts. Father, fill us again with the assurance of the cross and empty tomb so that we may receive again the victory that is ours through Jesus. Amen.

P: The burdens that are so heavy for you are light for Jesus! As you have now confessed your sins, it is my privilege and joy to announce to you that Jesus has taken away your burdens by His death and resurrection. According to His own command, I, as a servant of Jesus and Your pastor, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.



CHORUS: *Do, Lord, O do, Lord, O do remember me!*
Do, Lord, O do, Lord, O do remember me!
Do, Lord, O do, Lord, O do remember me!
Look away beyond the blue.

1. You're my light and my salvation, I won't be afraid!
 You're the stronghold of my life, by You all things were made.
 Foes attack me, hassle me, but I will never fade,
 For I move in the strength of the Lord.

CHORUS

2. Though a host encamp against me, I will never fear!
 Even though a war surrounds me, You are always near.
 One thing I have asked of You that I will seek for sure
 Is to live in the house of the Lord.

CHORUS

3. Glory to be to God the Father and to God the Son;
 Glory be to God the Spirit, ever Three in One.
 As it was in the beginning, till our race is won
 We can live in the light of the Lord.

CHORUS

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us Pray. . .Lord Jesus Christ,

C: in Your deep compassion You rescue us from whatever may hurt us.

P: Teach us to love You above all things and to love our neighbors as ourselves;

C: For You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Old Testament:

Zechariah 9:9-12

The Lord hears His people's cry.

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall speak peace to the nations; his rule shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

GOSPEL:

Matthew 11:25-30

Jesus offers rest to all who come to Him.

At that time Jesus declared, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

SERMON HYMN - "Seek Ye First"

TOSB 187

1. Seek ye first the Kingdom of God, and His righteousness.
And all these things shall be added unto you!
Allelu, alleluia!

2. Ask and it shall be given unto you, seek and ye shall find,
Knock and the door shall be opened unto you,
Allelu, alleluia!
3. Man does not live by bread alone, but by every word
That proceeds from the mouth of the Lord,
Allelu, alleluia!

SERMON

"Going Unplugged"

WE SHARE OUR FAITH

C: We believe in God, the Creator of all things, the source of all goodness and love.

We believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, true God yet true man. He was crucified, died and was buried for our sin that we might be free and know the joy of life. He was raised on the third day and ascended to heaven, and will come again in power and glory to judge both the living and the dead.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the power of God at work inside of us.

We believe in the church of God, the people of faith throughout the world. We believe that our sin is forgiven and that we will live together with God for now and throughout eternity. Amen.

OFFERING

(We offer our thanksgiving for what God has first given us - ourselves, our time, our possessions.)

OFFERTORY

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P: With hearts of thanksgiving, let us pray to the Lord, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever.

P: Heavenly Father, Your Son is the ultimate Good Samaritan. He has not ignored our need to be rescued from sin and certain death. He has had compassion on us and provided for our needs of both body and soul. Motivated by His love, strengthen us to "go and do likewise." Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good,

C: for His steadfast love endures forever!

P: Heavenly Father, as we live in this fallen world, we are so often tempted to chase after those things that do not endure. We give into temptation to love and trust in temporal things, rather than in You. Help us to seek first Your kingdom and enduring love. Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good,

C: for His steadfast love endures forever!

P: Heavenly Father, You care for the hurting and bind up the injured and broken. Have compassion on those who are suffering or ill, (especially...). According to Your gracious will, restore them in mind and body. Work through others in their life to be visible reminders of Your love for them. Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good,

C: for His steadfast love endures forever!

P: Heavenly Father, You are Lord of the nations and Creator of the heavens and the earth. Guide the nations of this world so that rulers may govern with wisdom and justice. Bless our land with peace. Watch over and protect those who serve in the armed forces of our country. Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good,

C: for His steadfast love endures forever!

P: O Lord, into Your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy.

C: Amen.

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 trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

BENEDICTION

Psalm 41:13

P: Blessed be the Lord,

C: the God of Israel,

P: from everlasting to everlasting!

C: Amen and Amen.

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C: Amen.

Numbers 6:24-26

CLOSING HYMN – “Will the Circle Be Unbroken?”

1. There are loved ones in the glory whose dear forms you often miss;
When you close your earthly story, will you join them in their bliss?
Will the circle be unbroken by and by, Lord, by and by?
There's a better home awaiting in the sky, Lord, in the sky!

2. In the joyous days of childhood, oh, they told of wondrous love,
Pointed to the dying Savior; now they dwell with Him above.
Will the circle be unbroken by and by, Lord, by and by?
There's a better home awaiting in the sky, Lord, in the sky!
3. One by one their seats were emptied, one by one they went away.
Now the fam'ly circle's broken; will it be complete one day?
Will the circle be unbroken by and by, Lord, by and by?
There's a better home awaiting in the sky, Lord, in the sky!

DISMISSAL

P: Go in Peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.