



February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024

# Gathering

*During the Prelude we invite you to greet one another with love outside the Chapel, and allow those within to meditate, pray or just listen.*

Prelude

“Reverie”

Claude Debussy

*As you meditate during the Prelude, consider today's scripture. What can you hear? Truth? Anger? Grace? Grief? Kindness? Clamor?*

*Is it all enjoyable to listen to? Does it all come together anyway to create something beautiful?*

Welcome

\*Call to Worship

\*congregation please stand in body or spirit

Leader: The season of Lent sets us on a journey.

**People: We follow the way of Jesus, who faced trials, trouble, temptation, and testing.**

Leader: Like Jesus, we are not alone.

**People: The Holy Spirit is with us, and God's Word sustains us.**

Leader: Our call is to trust in God alone and to do God's will in all things.

**People: As one family we gather to worship God and to proclaim our faith in Jesus Christ and his kingdom!**

\*Opening Hymn #165 “ The Glory of These Forty Days”

Poem

“Truth Is The Sun”

by Samuel Valentine Cole

The truth is large; no man hath seen the whole;

Larger than words; it brooks not the control

Of argument and of distinctions nice;

No age or creed can hold it, no device

Of speech or language; ay, no syllogism;

Truth is the sun, and reason is the prism

You lift before it; whence the light is thrown

In various colors; each man takes his own.

If this man takes the red, as you the blue,

Is yours the whole, and is his truth not true?

Spirit is truth, howe'er the colors fall;

The fact comes back to spirit, after all.

## Call to Confession

### Prayer of Confession

**Holy God, we confess that we have grown complacent in our response to you. Our attitudes, speech, and actions do not reflect the kingdom love you call us to demonstrate. Forgive us for speaking out in anger, inflicting hurt and wounds upon others. Forgive us for not being fully honest with ourselves or you. Disturb our complacency and quicken our desire for a more truthful, faithful, and abundant life, we pray in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.**

### Time for Silent Confession

#### Assurance of Pardon

**Leader:** God hears our honest confession with compassion and mercy. Friends, do not be afraid, for in Jesus Christ, we can speak the truth and receive God's unconditional love.

**People:** **Christ's redeeming, forgiving love makes us whole and new. Hallelujah! Amen.**

\*Musical Response #431 "Forgive Us, Lord" vs. 1

\*Passing of the Peace of Christ

**Leader:** May the peace of Christ be with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

Anthem "Light of the World" *from the musical Godspell* by Stephen Schwartz

#### Joys and Concerns and Pastoral Prayer

**Leader:** Lord in your mercy,

**People:** **Hear our prayers**

## The Word

### Prayer for Illumination

Scriptures: James 3:2b-10 and Ephesians 4:25-5:2

**Leader:** Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church!

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon “Traits of Kingdom Living: Speaking Truthfully”

\*Hymn #451 “Open My Eyes, That I May See”

Time for Response to Sermon

The Lord’s Prayer

Announcements

## Sending

\*Closing Hymn #316 “Where Charity and Love Prevail”

\*Benediction

Postlude “Light of the World”

Stephen Schwartz

*Feel free to stand, chat and generally share in Fellowship as the Postlude sends us out into the world in Love.*

We welcome all who worship with us this day. May you experience God’s presence and find inspiration for your journey of faith. This morning the leaders in worship are:

**Rev. Michelle Fincher**, Pastor; **Heidi Thomas**, Music Director;  
**Calvary Singers**; **Ruth M. Huff**, Liturgist; **Ryan Hodel**, Zoom Host

*All music today is used by CCLI –1800777/One License #A-725921*