



**April 28<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 “Just As I Am”

arr. by Carol Tornquist

Welcome

\*Call to Worship

\*Congregation please stand in body or spirit

Leader: We come to worship with joy, trusting God’s holy word will inspire us.

**People: We lean into God for understanding, anticipating the Spirit’s blessing.**

Leader: May God hear our praise! May we be counted among the great congregation.

**People: May the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable to God.**

\*Opening Hymn “Sing A New Church” *(see insert)*

Poem

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Leader: Divine Creator, we come before you with humble hearts, acknowledging our shortcomings and seeking forgiveness.

**People: We confess, O God, that we have subjected others to the kind of rejection and misunderstanding that you yourself experienced in the form of Jesus.**

Leader: Grant us the courage to stand in solidarity with those who are cast out, feared, looked down upon, reviled, even when doing so puts us at risk or challenges our comfort.

**People: In times of fear and uncertainty, may we find solace in your promises, O God.**

Leader: Even if our earthly relationships falter, you remain steadfast in your love for us. Strengthen us with the knowledge that you will always take us in and hold us

close, especially when we feel alone or misunderstood by those we hold dear.

**People:** **Help us, O God, to live authentically and boldly as the children you created us to be.**

**Leader:** May our lives reflect your boundless love and embrace. In your holy name we pray silently now the confessions on our hearts.

## Time for Silent Confession

### Assurance of Pardon

Friends, hear the good news, in Jesus Christ you are forgiven. Hallelujah, Amen.

\*Musical Response #447 “We Are Forgiven” (*sing twice*)

\*Passing of the Peace of Christ

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

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

## The Word

### Prayer for Illumination

Scriptures: Acts 8:26-40

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

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

Sermon “Venturing Beyond the Comfort Zone”

\*Hymn “I Met A Stranger On The Road” (*see insert*)

### Time for Response to the Sermon

### Joy and Concerns and Pastoral Prayer

**Leader:** Lord in your mercy,

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

### The Lord’s Prayer

Moment for Mission - Community Ministry, Joyce Neufeld

### Announcements

# Sending

\*Closing Hymn #305 “Come Sing, O Church in Joy”

\*Benediction

Postlude

“Deep Blue”

by Adrian Webster

*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. Ruth M. Huff**, Guest Preacher; **Heidi Thomas**, Music Director;  
**Ryan Beach**, Liturgist

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

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