



## **Giving by Faith**



**October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023**

# 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 “Oh, How Wondrous, Oh How Glorious” arr. by Thomas Chesterton  
Introit #2005 “Arise, Shine!”

Welcome

\*Call to Worship

\*congregation please stand in body or spirit

Leader: God’s gifts are extravagant!

**People: Love, joy, peace and patience,**

Leader: kindness, generosity, faithfulness and gentleness.

**People: These are the fruits that God’s Spirit bears in us.**

**These are the gifts we share with one another and the world!**

\*Opening Hymn #422 “God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending”

Poem “Sowing And Reaping” by Adelaide Anne Procter

Sow with a generous hand;  
Pause not for toil or pain;  
Weary not through the heat of summer,  
Weary not through the cold spring rain,  
But wait till the autumn comes  
For the sheaves of golden grain.

Scatter the seed, and fear not,  
A table will be spread;  
What matter if you are too weary  
To eat your hard earned bread!  
Sow, while the earth is broken,  
For the hungry must be fed.

Sow; — while the seeds are lying  
In the warm earth’s bosom deep,  
And your warm tears fall upon it, —  
They will stir in their quiet sleep;

And the green blades rise the quicker,  
Perchance, for the tears you weep.  
Then sow; — for the hours are fleeting,  
And the seed must fall to-day;  
And care not what hands shall reap it,  
Or if you shall have passed away  
Before the waving cornfields  
Shall gladden the sunny day.

Sow; and look onward, upward,  
Where the starry light appears,  
Where, in spite of the coward's doubting,  
Or your own heart's trembling fears,  
You shall reap in joy the harvest  
You have sown to-day in tears.

## Call to Confession

### Prayer of Confession

**Generous God, your gifts to us overflow. Your love knows no limits, your mercy never fails. Your presence is always with us. Your Spirit guides and comforts us. With such riches, why are we so afraid? Afraid to let go, to surrender, to give away, to be generous. Afraid to open our hearts, to be vulnerable, to be honest with ourselves or others. Afraid to trust you. Forgive us for believing that everything is up to us. Forgive us for living in fear rather than in the joy, gratitude, and faith that leads to generosity of spirit. Renew and reclaim us, in Jesus' name, we pray.**

### Time for Silent Confession

#### Assurance of Pardon

**Leader:** God's mercy is from everlasting to everlasting which assures us that God hears our confession and cleanses our hearts. Friends, believe the good news!

**People:** **In Jesus Christ, we are given new life and a new beginning! Thanks be to God. Amen.**

\*Musical Response #2014 "Alleluia"

## \*Passing of the Peace of Christ

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

## The Word

Hearing the Word Through Music “Sing To the Lord!” by Ken Medema

Prayer for Illumination

Scriptures: 1 Chronicles 29:10-16

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

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon “Giving by Faith: Let’s Celebrate!”

\*Hymn #147 “Blessing and Honor” vs 1-3

Time for Response to the Sermon

Joys and Concerns and Pastoral Prayer

Leader: Lord in your mercy,

**People: Hear our prayers**

The Lord’s Prayer

Announcements

## Sending

\*Closing Hymn #145 “Rejoice, Ye Pure In Heart!” vs 1,2,4

\*Benediction

Postlude “Postlude in G” by Henry Kihlken

*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**, Interim Music Director;

**Calvary Singers**; **Katherine Huff**, Liturgist; **Ryan Hodel**, Zoom Host

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