

The Church at Worship

**Those who are able are invited to stand.
Congregational responses and unison readings are indicated in bold.*

The Gathering

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy God on this Mother's Day we give thanks for the way you nurture and care for each of us as your beloved children. We praise you for your comfort and care, for the ways you wrap your divine arms around us and pull us close. We give thanks to you for granting us earthly mothers to care and nurture us here on earth. For all the ways you care for your children, we give you thanks and praise. Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP *(based on Psalm 1)*

Leader: Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked

People: We delight in God's Word, we meditate on God day and night.

Leader: Our worship grounds us in God, like trees planted by streams of water

People: God helps us yield good fruit. We do not wither when we spend time in God's presence.

*HYMN OF PRAISE *When Morning Gilds the Sky* # 66

CALL TO CONFESSION

As this Easter season comes to a close, we turn again to God to confess our sins, the sins of our community and our society, to prepare ourselves to live into the redemption Christ offers.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Beckoning God, you invite us to walk the narrow path and to live lives worthy of the gospel. Yet how often we hold a grudge, sustain a pout, harbor a complaint. We are preoccupied with our hurts and absorbed in the little injustices done to us. We neglect our high calling to visit the

sick, care for the poor, feed the hungry and confront the oppressors. Empowering God, open our eyes and strengthen our wills to care for the ill, to shelter the homeless and provide security for the abused, to feed the dayworkers and unemployed, and to pester those in control of systems and institutions to care for the well-being of all their citizens. Let our lives be worthy of the Prince of Peace, the Redeemer of All. Amen.

(Moment for silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Christ forgives. Christ transforms. Christ renews. Christ leads us down the path of new beginnings. We are a new creation, ready to sing God's glory and testify to God's grace. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.

All: Thanks be to God, Amen.

The Response to Forgiveness

**Gloria Patri* #620

THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: *The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ which passes all understanding be with you all.*

All: And also with you.

(Please turn to those around you and extend the hand of peace and friendship)

*HYMN OF RESPONSE *Take Time to Be Holy* # 171
(vs. 1 & 4)

The Word

SCRIPTURE John 13:31-35

SERMON *What it Means to be a Family*
The Rev. Ron Jones

The Response

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostle's Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Eucharist

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

**DOXOLOGY* # 623

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all people here below;
Praise God above ye heavenly host;
Praise Father; Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

The Sending

*CLOSING HYMN *We've a Story to Tell To the Nations* # 524

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE *God Be With You* #583

POSTLUDE

