



*About that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked,
“Who is greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven?” Matthew 18:1 NLT*

** indicates an appropriate time to stand as you are able.

Gathering Music

Greeting and Announcements

Prayer and Transition to Worship

Prelude

****Call to Worship**

One: Children of God, when we begin to follow Christ, we realize

Many: that it is indeed easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for people who are privileged to understand the kingdom of heaven and to enter it.

One: In spite of how hard it is to understand the kingdom of heaven, if we are willing to enter it,

Many: we will realize that one of us is not greater than any other.

One: For our Christ, the Anointed One, has said,

Many: “The last will be first, and the first will be last.”

All: And this is indeed so.

****Opening Song**

“Sing a New World into Being”

On Screen verses 1-3

Prayers of the People

Here we are, Lord. It is us. We want to bring a new world into being. You’ve promised us one, and we want to experience the fulfillment of your promises. We aren’t always pretty. Sometimes we think we are more important than the person sitting next to us. Sometimes we think our taste in how to worship is more important than the taste of our neighbor. Sometimes we don’t want to let people other than ourselves make decisions. Still, here we are, asking you to fill us with your Spirit, asking you to make us rivers of your grace in this world, asking you to heal the world through us, your servants. Here we are, Lord, in spite of all our failings, send us!

1. Praise to the Lord, the Al - mighty, the King of cre - a -
 2. Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so won-drous-ly reign -
 3. Praise to the Lord, who doth pros-per thy work and de - fend
 4. Praise to the Lord, who doth nour-ish thy life and re - store
 5. Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a - dore

tion! O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and sal -
 ing bears thee on ea - gle's wings, e'er in his keep-ing main -
 thee; sure - ly his good-ness and mer-cy here dai - ly at -
 thee, fit - ting thee well for the tasks that are ev - er be -
 him! All that hath life and breath, come now with prais-es be -

va tion! All ye who hear, now to his tem - ple draw
 tain - ing. God's care en - folds all, whose true good he up -
 tend thee. Pon - der a - new what the Al - mighty can
 fore thee. Then to thy need God as a moth-er doth
 fore him! Let the a - men sound from his peo - ple a -

near; join me in glad ad - o - ra tion!
 holds. Hast thou not known his sus - tain - ing?
 do, who with his love doth be - friend thee.
 speed, spread - ing the wings of grace o'er thee.
 gain; glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore him.

WORDS: Joachim Neander, 1680; sts. 1, 3, 5 trans. by Catherine Winkworth, 1863
 st. 2 by S. Paul Schilling, 1986; st. 4 by Rupert E. Davies, 1983 (Ps. 103:1-6; 150)
 MUSIC: *Erneuerten Gesangbuch*, 1665; harm. by William Sterndale Bennett, 1864

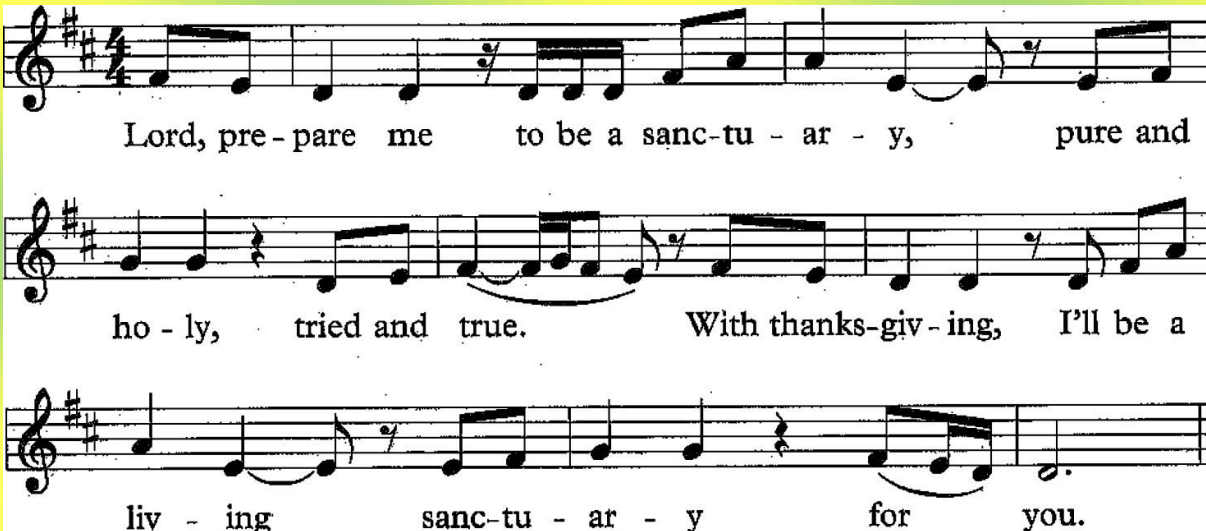
LOBE DEN HERREN
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Children's Message

A Prayer for the Spirit

"Sanctuary"

TFWS #2164



WORDS: John Thompson and Randy Scruggs
MUSIC: John Thompson and Randy Scruggs

SANCTUARY
Irregular

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Scripture Reading

Matthew 13:10-13, 20:1-16 NIV

Matthew 13:10-13 NIV

One: The disciples came to him and asked,

Green: "Why do you speak to the people in parables?"

One: He replied,

Blue: "Because the knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of heaven has been given to you, but not to them. Whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. This is why I speak to them in parables: Though seeing, they do not see; though hearing, they do not hear or understand."

Matthew 20:1-16 NIV

One: For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. He agreed to pay them a denarius for the day and sent them into his vineyard. About nine in the morning he went out and saw others standing in the marketplace doing nothing. He told them,

Yellow: "You also go and work in my vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right."

One: So they went. He went out again about noon and about three in the afternoon and did the same thing. About five in the afternoon he went out and found still others standing around. He asked them,

Yellow: "Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?"

Blue: "Because no one has hired us," they answered.

One: He said to them,
Yellow: “You also go and work in my vineyard.”

One: When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman,
Yellow: “Call the workers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and going on to the first.”

One: The workers who were hired about five in the afternoon came and each received a denarius. So when those came who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius. When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner.

Green: “These who were hired last worked only one hour,” they said, “and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day.”

One: But he answered one of them,
Yellow: “I am not being unfair to you, friend. Didn’t you agree to work for a denarius? Take your pay and go. I want to give the one who was hired last the same as I gave you. Don’t I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?”

One: So the last will be first, and the first will be last.

All: Well now, what could that possibly mean?

Sermon

“Who Gets the Privilege?”

Time of Prayer

Email or call the church office or pastor with prayer requests. There is also a basket on the table in the lobby where you can put your written requests. Please indicate whether you would like your request to be private to the pastor and/or prayer circle or to be public in the newsletter or worship service.

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 sins as we forgive those who sin 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. Amen.

Invitation to the Offering

One: Let us read together the words of the Apostle Paul:

Many: “I have given you an example that by working hard like this we should help the weak. We should remember the words that the Lord Jesus said, ‘Giving gifts is more satisfying than receiving them.’” Acts 20:35 God’s Word Translation

Offertory

**“River in Judea”
Chancel Choir**

arr. John Leavitt

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****Doxology**

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

NCH #780

**Blessings abound where'er Christ reigns.
The prisoners leap to lose their chains.
The weary find eternal rest,
And all who suffer want are blest.**

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow". It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first system of lyrics is "Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here be-low;" and the second system is "Praise God a-bove, you heaven-ly host: Praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost."

Prayer

Here we are, Lord, giving to our community the gifts you've given to us. Let us not ask you to bless what we do; but rather, help us to do what you promise to bless. We were born for such a time as this, and we are eager to serve your purpose in this generation. But we don't always know what to do or how to do it, and we aren't always willing to learn your ways. Open our eyes to see. Open our ears to hear. Strengthen our hands to serve. Set a door upon our lips, so that our words would be an echo of your voice in this world. Here we are, Lord, bless the work of our hands! Here we are, Lord, send us!

****Closing Hymn**

**“Bind Us Together”
By Isaac Wardell**

On Screen

Benediction

**Sending Song

“May You Run and Not Be Weary”

TFWS #2281



May you run and not be wea - ry. May your
heart be filled with song. — And may the
love of God con - tin - ue to give you hope and
keep you strong. And may you run and not be wea -
ry. May your life be filled with joy! — And may the
road you trav - el al - ways lead you home. _

WORDS: Paul Murakami and Handt Hanson (Isa. 40:31)

MUSIC: Paul Murakami and Handt Hanson

PRINCE OF PEACE
Irregular

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Postlude

Acknowledgments

Some of the liturgy is inspired by Esther 4:14, Acts 13:36, Psalm 141:3, Matthew 19:24, other scripture, and a friend's previous pastor. All music is part of the public domain or is used with permission by St James Music Press, license No. 29302; OneLicense, license No. A-727303; and CCLI, license No. 23172435A.