

## GATHERING

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME AND LIFE IN THE CHURCH

Rev. Rogers

### \* CALL TO WORSHIP

adapted from Matthew 5:1–12

One: Seeing that the people were ready to listen, Jesus sat down on the mountain and taught them, saying—“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the realm of heaven.

**All: Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.**

One: Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

**All: Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.**

One: Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

**All: Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.**

One: Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called God’s own children.

**All: Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the realm of heaven.”**

One: Our eyes, our ears, our minds, our hearts are open;

**All: Speak to us, O God; we are ready to listen, and eager to live!**

### \* HYMN 509

*All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly*

HOLY MANNA

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Generous God – We remember that, in the beginning, you blessed all that you had created.**

**We confess that we have not lived in this world as though it bears the imprint of your blessing; we have not treated our fellow creatures as though they contain your goodness;**

**we have not recognized your image and likeness in the faces of so many around us.**

**We remember Jesus holding out blessing to all who are willing to risk becoming a new creation.**

**Humbly we ask forgiveness for all that distorts or obscures your blessing.**

**Fervently we ask for courage to follow where Jesus beckons,**

**and strength to live into the blessing that, in him, you offer. . .**

### SILENT CONFESSION

### KYRIE



KYRIE ELEISON



### ASSURANCE OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS

### \* PASSING OF THE PEACE

*You are invited to greet one another with a sign of the peace God intends for us—saying “The peace of Christ be with you,” and responding, “And also with you.” (During this season of flu, instead of handshakes we recommend passing the peace with fist bumps, elbows, or peace signs.)*

**\* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,  
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

*This is Hymn 582 *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me* (GLORY TO GOD).*

**PROCLAIMING**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Linda Strodman

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

Micah 6:1–4, 6–8

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**NEW TESTAMENT READING**

Matthew 5:1–12

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

*Holding Pattern*

Rev. Dr. Spalding

**RESPONDING**

**\* HYMN 172**

*Blest Are They*

BLEST ARE THEY

**OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS**

Rev. McGowan

**Offertory**

**\* Doxology**

OLD HUNDREDTH

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

**\* Prayer of Dedication**

**SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION**

*See Communion Card*

**SENDING**

**\* HYMN 372**

*O for a World*

AZMON

*Please sing Stanzas 1–4. Offerings for the Washtenaw Community College Food Bank may be brought forward and placed in the baskets.*

**\* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**\* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

**O for a world preparing for God's glorious reign of peace,  
where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.**

*This is Stanza 5 of *O for a World*.*

**\* POSTLUDE**

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*\* Please rise in body or spirit.*