

ORDER of WORSHIP

Greeting and Welcome

Prelude Music

Call to Worship

Leader: Come away from the rush and worry of the world to worship God.

All: We come seeking peace and quiet for our souls.

Leader: Rest your spirits. Quiet your hearts. God is with us.

All: Praise be to God who calls us to come away.

Opening Prayer

All: Gracious and Patient God, as we come to you this day, we are mindful of the many ways in which we have so easily turned our back on you. Turn us around again, O Lord. Open our hearts and our spirits to receive your holy word that we may again walk in the path of true discipleship. Amen.

Hymn of Praise "This Is the Feast of Victory" UMH #638,

Words: Revelation 5:12-13; trans. by John W. Arthur, 1970. Music: Richard Hillert.

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Refrain

This is the feast
of victory for our God.
For the Lamb Who was slain
has begun His reign:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

1. Worthy is Christ,
the Lamb Who was slain,
whose blood set us free
to be people of God.

Refrain

2. Power, riches, wisdom,
and strength,
and honor, blessing,

and glory are his.

Refrain

3. Sing with all
the people of God,
and join in the hymn
of all creation.

Refrain

4. Blessing, honor,
glory, and might
be to God and
the Lamb forever. Amen.

Refrain

5. For the Lamb
who was slain
has begun his reign.

Alleluia!

Refrain

Children's Message

Special Music (Hand Bells)

Scripture Reading Philippians 3:4b-14 (NRSV)

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by

becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon "Pressing On" Rev. Matthew B. Sergent

Pastoral Prayer

Recognizing Our Communion with One Another

Hymn "Here Is Bread, Here Is Wine" TFWS #2266

Words and Music: Graham Kendrick, 1992.

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1. Here is bread, here is wine
Christ is with us, he is with us
Break the bread, drink the wine
Christ is with us here

2. Here is grace, here is peace
Christ is with us, he is with us
Know his grace, find his peace
Feast on Jesus here
Refrain: In this bread there is healing
In this cup there's life forever
In this moment, by the Spirit
Christ is with us here

3. Here we are, joined in one
Christ is with us, he is with us
We'll proclaim, till he comes

Jesus crucified

Benediction

Go now into the world in which noise and confusion reign. Bring peace and hope in Christ's Name to all you meet. God's peace and love be with you now and always.

Postlude