



## PRELUDE

Jane Shelly

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ledra Brady

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up to the Lord.**

## LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLES (at FPC and in our homes)

Ledra Brady

We light these candles to remind ourselves of God's presence,  
not only in this place, but in all places. Amen.

## CALL TO WORSHIP

What does the Lord require of you?

**To do justice, and to love kindness,  
and to walk humbly with our God.**

What does God command of us?

**To love God with all our heart, and all our soul,  
and all our mind, and all our strength,  
and to love our neighbor as ourselves.**

God does not call us to ease or to comfort.

**But to presence, and abundance, and grace in our struggle.  
Let us worship the God who will ask much of us  
but will be beside us every step of the way.**

## PRAYER AND SILENT LISTENING TO GOD

Rev. Linda

Let us pray. Holy God, through signs of grace you reveal your glory to all the world. Open our eyes to the hidden and surprising wonders you perform, that we may believe with our minds and trust in our hearts that you alone are Lord of all creation. In this time of silence, prepare our hearts for worship.

## HYMN

### *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;  
there is no shadow of turning with thee.  
Thou changest not; thy compassions they fail not.  
As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

*Chorus:*

*Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning, new mercies I see.  
All I have needed thy hand hath provided.  
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!*

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,  
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above  
Join with all nature in manifold witness  
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. (*chorus*)

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,  
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow:  
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! (*chorus*)

## OLD TESTAMENT

Micah 6:6-8

Ledra Brady

“With what shall I come before the Lord  
and bow myself before God on high?  
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,  
with calves a year old?

Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams,  
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?  
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,  
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”

He has told you, O mortal, what is good,  
and what does the Lord require of you  
but to do justice and to love kindness  
and to walk humbly with your God?

**CONFESSION AND PARDON**

Rev. Linda

Let us confess our sins to God,  
whose loving-kindness endures forever.

**Mighty and merciful God, in our minds, we believe we are attentive to those who are hungry or thirsty, welcoming to strangers we encounter, caregivers for those who are ill and friend to those who are imprisoned. But in our hearts, we know that we more often avert our eyes, pretending not to see the homeless person, avoiding anyone who is different, and staying away from those who are suffering because we don't know what to say. Forgive us for when we did not recognize you in the face of a stranger and failed to care for those in need. Open our hearts so that we might see the stranger with your eyes and strive to be your hands and feet in the world.**

*Silence, a time for personal confession.*

Neither this world, nor each life is so broken, that God cannot restore it to wholeness. Trust and believe in the Good News: after separation, reconciliation is possible. God shows us the way home. I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

*Good, Good Father*

Sara Dooley

**DISCOVERY TIME**

Grete Hansen

**THE OFFERING**

Rev. Linda

## **DOXOLOGY**

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

## **FIRST GOSPEL READING** Luke 10:25-37

Ledra Brady

An expert in the law stood up to test Jesus “Teacher,” he said, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” He said to him, “What is written in the law? What do you read there?” He answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and your neighbor as yourself.” And he said to him, “You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.”

But wanting to vindicate himself, he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and took off, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while traveling came upon him, and when he saw him he was moved with compassion. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, treating them with oil and wine. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, ‘Take care of him, and when I come back I will repay you whatever more you spend.’ Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?” He said, “The one who showed him mercy.” Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.”

## **SECOND GOSPEL READING** John 20:19-31

Rev. Linda

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them

again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**REFLECTING ON THE WORD** "How Do We Respond?"

Rev. Linda

**HYMN**

*Here I Am Lord*

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.  
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.  
I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

*Chorus:*

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?  
I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.  
I will hold your people in my heart.*

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.  
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.  
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.  
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send? (*chorus*)

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.  
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.  
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.  
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? (*chorus*)

## OUR PRAYERS TO GOD

Rev. Linda

*Prayers of thanksgiving and petition may be offered, followed by:*

Leader: Lord, in your mercy.

People: **Hear our prayer.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER (*or in your preferred version*)

**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

## CHARGE

### CLOSING RESPONSE

From where we are  
to where you need us,  
**Jesus, now lead on.**

From the security of what we know  
to the adventure of what you will reveal,  
**Jesus, now lead on.**

To refashion the fabric of this world  
until it resembles the shape of your reign,  
**Jesus, now lead on.**

Because good things have been prepared  
for those who love God,  
**Jesus, now lead on.**

Surround us with your presence,  
inspire us with your purpose,  
confirm us in your love.

**Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

## **CLOSING SONG**

*Go Now in Peace*

Go now in peace, never be afraid.  
God will go with you, each hour of every day.  
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true,  
Know he will guide you in all you do.

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Worship Leaders: Rev. Linda Powers, Ledra Brady, Music Director Jane Shelly,  
Accompanist Jenny Smith, Sara Dooley

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### Credits

Artwork page 1: The Good Samaritan, by Daniel Borup

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Music: *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*, Thomas O. Chisholm, 1923; © 1923, ren. 1951 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.

Music: *Here I Am, Lord*; TEXT: Daniel L. Schutte, 1981, alt.; © 1981, 2000 OCP.

Music: *Go Now In Peace*, TEXT: Don Besig and Nancy Price, MUSIC: Don Besig, © 1988, Harold Flammer Music, a Division of Shawnee Press, Inc.