

PRELUDE

NEWS OF THE CHURCH ALIVE

PASSING OF THE PEACE—Please maintain at least 6 feet distance!

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Jesus commanded, “Love one another.”

**People: We come to worship the God who is love,
That we might learn to love one another.**

**Pastor: Jesus said, “No longer do I call you servants;
Now I call you my friends.”**

**People: We come to worship God,
Who sent His Son to be our salvation.**

Pastor: Let us praise God and live in love and friendship with all people.

From the UCC Book of Worship with my modifications

OPENING HYMN—“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

**Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah,
Pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak but Thou art mighty,
Hold me with Thy powerful hand.
Bread of Heaven, bread of Heaven,
Feed me ‘till I want no more,
Feed me ‘till I want no more.**

Open now the crystal fountain
Whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through.
Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer,
Be Thou still my strength and shield,
Be Thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
Bid my anxious fears subside;
Bear me through the swelling current,
Lead me safe on Canaan's side;
Songs of praises, songs of praises,
I will ever give to Thee,
I will ever give to Thee!

CALL TO CONFESSION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Because we have seen pain without being moved, because we forget your love with solemn pride, because we pass by before poverty and sadness, Lord have mercy. For speaking of love without loving our sister or brother, for speaking of faith without living your word, because we live without recognizing our own sin, Christ have mercy. For our tranquility in affluence, and for wanting to make excuses about injustice and misery, Lord have mercy on us.

from UCC Book of Worship

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

DOXOLOGY—SUNG!

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!

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION—

God, with great gentleness and care, you call us to be your people and to do your work. Be here with us today, for we approach You, asking for Your blessing. We need your love, transforming our lives in hope. Be with us, we pray. Amen

from “Flames of the Spirit” by Ruth C. Duck

BIBLE READING--Exodus 14: 19-31

TEACHING TIME FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS---please stay in your seats

TIME FOR MUSIC

BIBLE READING—Matthew 12: 21-35

TEACHING TIME

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE / *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 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, for ever. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN—“There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”

There’s a wideness in God’s mercy,
Like the wideness of the sea;
There’s a kindness in God’s justice,
Which is more than liberty.

There’s no place where earthly sorrows
Are more felt than in God’s Heaven;
There’s no place where earthly failings
Have such kindly judgment given.

For the love of God is broader
Than the measures of our minds;
And the heart of the Eternal
Is most wonderfully kind.

If our love were but more faithful
We would gladly trust God's Word,
And our lives would show thanksgiving
For the goodness of our God.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE
