

(*) Please rise in body or in spirit
Bold Italic Letters indicate congregational response

— *Gathering* —
Thy Word

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PRELUDE

WELCOME

*OPENING SENTENCES

We gather here as the body of Christ,
God's servants working together.

God call us to worship, to hear the good news and sing our praise,
for we are the hands and feet of Jesus here and now.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

*HYMN #300 +They'll Know We Are Christians

CONFESSION

*Almighty God,
you set before us life and prosperity,
but we turn towards death and adversity.
We do not listen to your commandments,
we bow down to other gods:
convenience, self-reliance, greed, bitterness.
Break us of our longing for gods we can see and touch.
Turn us back to you, mysterious and mighty God,
that we may observe your commandments,
and walk in your ways.*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God is always offering us another chance.

God is always offering life and abundance.

Turn to God and receive the good news:

Yesterday, today, tomorrow, we are forgiven! Alleluia!

*GLORIA #582, v1

*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.*

— *Word* —

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST TESTAMENT READING

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Bible p. 179, LG p. 233

Speak to us, Lord, for your servants are listening.

The word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

SECOND TESTAMENT READING

1 Corinthians 3:1-9

Bible p. 156-157, LG p. 203

Hear God's word for us.

A new teaching, with authority! *Thanks be to God.*

GOSPEL

Matthew 5:21-37

Bible p. 4-5, LG p. 5-6

Hear God's wisdom for us.

The wisdom of God for the people of God. *Thanks be to God.*

SERMON

You've Heard It Said

Rev. Michele Goff

DESCRIPTION OF PRAISE

— *Response* —

*HYMN #626

As the Deer

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.08

In Jesus of Nazareth, true humanity was realized once for all.

*Jesus, a Palestinian Jew, lived among his own people
and shared their needs, temptations, joys, and sorrows.*

*He expressed the love of God in word and deed
and became a brother to all kinds of sinful men and women.*

But his complete obedience led him into conflict with his people.

*His life and teaching judged their goodness,
religious aspirations, and national hopes.*

Many rejected him and demanded his death.

*In giving himself freely for them, he took upon himself the judgment
under which everyone stands convicted.*

God raised him from the dead, vindicating him as Messiah and Lord.

The victim of sin became victor, and won the victory over sin and death for all.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

We approach God in prayer not as strangers,
but as beloved children, baptized in Christ Jesus.

Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

...These things we pray in the name of Jesus,

your beloved Child, our Savior and Lord. *Amen.*

LORD'S PRAYER

*Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as in heaven.*