

# GATHERING

Ringing of the Hour

Greeting and Community Life                      Andrea Dellinger Jones  
Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them up to the Lord in worship!**

# ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

Prelude                      *Prelude on HYFRYDOL*                      Manz

Lighting of the Candles

Invocation                      Grady Moss

†Call to Worship  
With profound happiness, we welcome one another.  
How good it is to approach the courts of our God!  
**Happy are those who live in God's house!**  
**Singing our praise to God fills us with joy.**  
Here we welcome both friend and stranger.  
All peoples of the earth are God's children.  
**We greet one another in Jesus' name.**  
**Together we praise the name of our God.**  
Open your hearts to receive new strength.  
Open your lives to renewed understandings.  
**Surely God will equip us to face our world.**  
**We will be ambassadors for God wherever we go.**<sup>1</sup>

†Hymn 489      *Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty*                      UNSER SERRSCHER

†Passing of the Peace                      Bob Stillerman  
May the Peace of Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Children's Invitation to Gather                      JESUS LOVES ME  
**Jesus loves me! This I know, For the Bible tells me so;**  
**Little ones to Him belong; They are weak, but He is strong.**  
**Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!**  
**Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.**

Blessing of the Backpacks                      Katelyn McWhorter  
As you are preparing for school, picking out clothes, packing lunches, and grabbing your backpack,  
**You are loved and Jesus is with you.**

When you're getting on the school bus, riding in a car, or driving yourself to school, may you be safe and may you remember:

**You are loved and Jesus is with you.**

When what you're learning comes easily and also when what you're learning is difficult:

**You are loved and Jesus is with you.**

When you are happy and excited to be at school, and also when you are tired and you don't want to be there:

**You are loved and Jesus is with you.**

On testing days and field trip days, on the playground and at story time, on exam days and at football games, wherever you are and whatever you are doing:

**You are loved and Jesus is with you.**

Blessing of the Teachers                      Rebecca Hewitt-Newson  
When they are preparing for school, writing lesson plans, and buying supplies:

**Children: God bless our teachers.**

When they are excited and passionate about what they are teaching:

**Children: God bless our teachers.**

When they are tired and feel like they don't have anything left to give:

**Children: God bless our teachers.**

As they do their best each day to help children of all ages to flourish and grow:

**Children: God bless our teachers.**

May our teachers always remember that they are loved by God and that Jesus is with them.

**Children: God bless our teachers.**

Recessional Music

*(Kindergarten-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade will go to the Sonshine Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, Education Building for Children's Church.)*

Anthem                      *This Little Light of Mine*                      arr. Mabry

*This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine...Every day, every day, I'm gonna let my little light shine.*

*On Monday God gave me the gift of love; on Tuesday, peace come from above. On Wednesday, told me to have more faith; on Thursday, gave me a bit more grace. On Friday, told me to watch and pray; on Saturday, told me what to say. On Sunday, gave me power divine just to let my little light shine.*

*This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine...Every day, every day, I'm gonna let my little light shine.*

# PROCLAIMING

Psalter Lesson                      Psalm 84 (\*OT 543)                      Anne Ross Pender  
This is the gift of Holy Scripture.  
**Thanks be to God.**

†Hymn 207                      *How Lovely, Lord*                      MERLE'S TUNE

Worship in Giving

†Offertory Prayer                      Woody Catoe

Offertory                      *Where He Leads Me*                      arr. Berry

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings  
*(Signing of the Attendance Register may be done at this time.)*

†Doxology                      LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God from Whom all blessings flow;**  
**Praise God, all creatures here below. Alleluia! Alleluia!**  
**Praise God, the Trinity of Love.**  
**Praise God, within, beside, above.**  
**We praise You! We praise You!**  
**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.**

Hebrew Bible Lesson      1 Kings 8:22-30, 41-43 (\*OT p.312)                      Woody Catoe

This is the gift of Holy Scripture.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon                      *The God Box*                      Andrea Dellinger Jones

Discipline of Reflection  
*(The Discipline of Reflection is a brief, quiet time for personal reflection.)*

# GOING FORTH

†Hymn of Response 376                      HYFRYDOL  
*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

†Blessing  
*"We, the light of Christ, return to the world."*

†Postlude                      *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*                      Limbaugh

\* Pew Bible

† Please stand as you are able.

All music and text are printed with copyright privileges (OneLicense.net A-713292)  
<sup>1</sup>Reprinted by permission of United Church Press from *Led by Love* by Lavon Bayler, 1996.

**If you desire membership in our church,**  
or would like to make a public profession of faith,  
we invite you to present yourself during the Hymn of Response.  
The ministerial staff is available for consultation and would welcome your inquiry.