

Welcome to Worship

Gathering Music

Lighting of the Christ candle and a time of Silence

L; In this Season of new growth, new life, new hope,

All; We light a candle to remind us of the Light which could not be put out, the light that shines from the Empty Tomb.

[You may wish to use these words to help focus]

Awake and aware of the Christ light within me, I choose to express the Christ as I allow my inner light to shine forth

* **HYMN** 489 Come down, O love divine

* Opening Responses

L: A life without love would be no life at all!

All: We worship, in love, today!

L: A church without love would be no church at all!

All: We worship, in love, today!

L: A world without love would be no world at all!

All: We shall pray for more love, today!

Gathering Prayer

Bible Reading:

L; Until we can see ourselves in the words we read and the stories we hear, it is easy to remark on the rest of the world.

All May the light of these words fall strong upon each of us, that we can find the truth they reveal in our own hearts this day

From John 17

Jesus prayed, "I do not pray only for these people, my disciples. I pray also for those people who will believe in me because of my disciples' message. I pray that all of them will become united. You, Father, are in me and I am in you. I pray that they also will be united in us. Then the world's people will believe that you sent me. I have given to them the great and special gift that you gave to me. Now they can be united in the same way that you and I are united. I will be in them, and you will be in me, so that they can be completely united. As a result, the world's people will know that you sent me. They will also know that you love my own people as you love me. Father, you always do what is right. The world's people do not know you, but I know you.

These disciples know that you have sent me. I have shown them what you are like. And I will continue to show them what you are like. Then they will love other people, in the same way that you love me. And I myself will be in them.'

L; For the words of God that challenge us, for the words of God we
wrestle with or reject, for the word of God strong within us,

All; We give thanks

* **HYMN** 193 God is love; his the care

"Gospel Glimpses"

Anthem:

SERMON

Time for Reflection [during which the offering will be uplifted]

Prayer of Dedication

* **Sharing the Peace**

L; God makes peace within us. **All; Let us claim it.**

L: God makes peace between us. **All; Let us share it.**

L: Let us greet one another as a sign of God's peace.

Candle of Remembrance and Hope

[All sing] Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless his holy name.

Bless the Lord, my soul, he rescues me from death.

[*The candle of Remembrance and Hope is lit.*]

[All sing] Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless his holy name.

Bless the Lord, my soul, he leads me into life.

Prayers of Concern

* **HYMN** Conceiver of both earth and heaven. [t O Waly, Waly]

Conceiver of both heaven and earth, our words are feeble to express

The wonder of the world you bore, creating out of randomness.

Both rich and barren, damp and dry, you nurtured and endowed the
land,

Providing with a mother's care, protecting with a father's hand.

And in your image we are made, and with imagination blessed;

Some may bear children, all bear fruit and in our love find yours
expressed.

Be present in the gentle joy surrounding this small child we bring;
Baptise and name her as your own as friends on earth and angels sing.

Let Christ's own love embrace her home and may she find her proper
place-

Welcomed and wanted, listened to, a child of God, a gift of grace.

Bell/Maule

THE BAPTISM

The Ministry of the Word and the Preparation.

The Baptismal Prayer

The Congregational Promise

Sisters and brothers, today holly will be baptised in your midst. Do you, the Christian community in this place, promise to welcome and uphold her, to nurture and strengthen her, in the companionship of the spirit and the bond of peace.

All; As a baptized and baptizing people, we commit ourselves to support and uphold you within the community of faith.

The Baptism

Holly Treasure is baptised with the sign of the cross.

The Blessing [sung by all]

**The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord make his face to shine upon you,
and be gracious unto you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you,
and give you peace.**

The Promises

The Act of Recollection and Prayers of Thanksgiving

All; God be in our heads and in our understanding,

God be in our eyes and in our looking,

God be in our mouths and in our speaking,

God be in our hearts and in our thinking,

God be at our end and at our departing.

Lighting Of The Baptismal Candle

* **HYMN** 519 Love divine, all loves excelling.

* **Sending out**

L; Let us fall in love with living;

**All; wrestling with the chaos and the pain within ourselves
and within the world.**

L; Let us join the celebration of life.

**All; And may the God of peace and joy, who is continually making all
things new, embrace us as partners in the divine creating.**

* **Benediction**

* **Choral Amen**

Please remain seated until choir and clergy have processed out