

GOD GATHERS US

INTROIT Pastorella

F.W. Marpurg

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Beth W. Johnston, Bridging Waters P. C.

How lovely is God's dwelling place.

Our souls long to connect with our God.

All of earth and heaven tell us of God's goodness.

God's presence can be experienced from sunrise to sunrise.

God's call can be written on our hearts.

Let us seek God's will and listen for God's call to us.

Let us pray together.

OPENING PRAYER (unison)

Carol O'Neil, Westminster U. C.

Gracious God, help us to make every Sabbath about you. Quiet our hearts, give rest to our souls, and refocus our spirits – for true renewal comes only from you. Holy Spirit, please help us to be intentional with our time and worship, and encourage us to find rest in you alone. In Jesus' name. Amen

VOICES UNITED 391

God Reveal Your Presence

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

a paraphrase of Psalm 130 by Roger West, Elliott Lake, Ont

In my soul's despair,

I instinctively shout to you, O God.

Incline your ear, Gracious God, hear my seeking voice.

My failings are many and necessarily condemn me.

Yet you bestow forgiveness and I am amazed.

I pause to obtain God's benefit, and in God's promise, I believe.

My thirst for God is more persistent than the water against the rocks.

O people, rely on the Holy One,

God's devotion to us is endless; God is a saving God.

God will save God's precious people from all their sins.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

SHARING TIME

THE 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 trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us,
and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

GOD SPEAKS TO US IN WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

BIBLE READING Ephesians 4:25—5:2

²⁵ So then, putting away falsehood, let each of you speak the truth with your neighbor, for we are members of one another. ²⁶ Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, ²⁷ and do not make room for the devil. ²⁸ Those who steal must give up stealing; rather, let them labor, doing good work with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. ²⁹ Let no evil talk come out of your mouths but only what is good for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. ³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. ³¹ Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice. ³² Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. 5 ¹ Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, ² and walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

MORE VOICES 28

God of the Bible

BIBLE READING John 6:35, 41–51

³⁵ Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

⁴¹ Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, “I am the bread that came down from heaven.” ⁴² They were saying, “Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, ‘I have come down from heaven?’” ⁴³ Jesus answered them, “Do not complain among yourselves. ⁴⁴ No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me, and I will raise that person up on the last day. ⁴⁵ It is written in the prophets, ‘And they shall all be taught by God.’”

Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. ⁴⁶ Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. ⁴⁷ Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. ⁴⁸ I am the bread of life. ⁴⁹ Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. ⁵⁰ This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. ⁵¹ I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever, and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”

DOXOLOGY 236 VU (verse 3) “Now Thank We All Our God”

**All praise and thanks to God for all that has been given,
the Son and Spirit blest who dwell in highest heaven,
the one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore;
for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.**

MEDITATION

GOD INVITES US TO RESPOND

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

OFFERING INVITATION

PRAYER OF DEDICATION Laura Turnbull, Penticton, B.C.

Bread of Life, you are constant nourishment for our hungry souls. Bless these offerings, that they become sustenance for our famished, yearning, and longing bodies, minds, and spirits. May we, with these gifts, continue to live the story of amazing grace. Amen

VOICES UNITED 603

In Loving Partnership We Come

BENEDICTION

SONG OF COMMITMENT 161 MV (verse 4)

“I Have Called You by Your Name”

I have given you a name, it is mine;

I have given you my Spirit as a sign.

**With my wonder in your soul, make my wounded children whole;
go and tell my precious people they are mine.**

POSTLUDE Prelude in B flat BWV 560 J.S. Bach