

CALL TO WORSHIP

*****WEEK A:

Leader: Rejoice in the Lord always.

People: Let us say it again: Rejoice.

Leader: Whatever is true, just, and pleasing, think about these things,

People: and the God of peace will be with you.

WEEK B:

Leader: Come, let us worship and bow down.

People: Let us call upon God and listen for God's voice.

Leader: The Lord declares:

People: Be still and know that I am God.

WEEK C:

Leader: Cry out with joy to God, all the earth.

People: Come into God's presence with singing.

Leader: Worship the Eternal One in the beauty of holiness.

People: God draws near to the humble.

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN 625

How Great Thou Art

Please stand as you are able when the hymn is announced.

CALL TO PRAYER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen. [Silent prayers]

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

SUNG RESPONSE ("GLORIA"): HYMN 583

Please stand as you are able.

THE PEACE

Please greet your neighbors, saying, "Peace be with you."

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us greet one another with the peace of Christ.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Genesis 29:15-28

Then Laban said to Jacob, “Because you are my kinsman,
should you therefore serve me for nothing?

Tell me, what shall your wages be?”

Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah,
and the name of the younger was Rachel.

Leah’s eyes were weak, but Rachel was graceful and beautiful.

Jacob loved Rachel, so he said,

“I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel.”

Laban said, “It is better that I give her to you

than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me.”

So Jacob served seven years for Rachel,

and they seemed to him but a few days because of his love for her.

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Then Jacob said to Laban, “Give me my wife that I may go in to her,  
for my time is completed.”

So Laban gathered together all the people of the place and made a feast.

But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob,  
and he went in to her.

(Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.)

When morning came, it was Leah!

And Jacob said to Laban, “What is this you have done to me?

Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?”

Laban said, “This is not done in our country—giving the younger before the firstborn.

Complete the week of this one,

and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years.”

Jacob did so and completed her week;

then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.

Romans 8:26-39

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness,

for we do not know how to pray as we ought,

but that very Spirit intercedes with groanings too deep for words.

And God, who searches hearts, knows what is the mind of the Spirit,

because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God,

who are called according to his purpose.

For those whom he foreknew he also predestined

to be conformed to the image of his Son,

in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family.

And those whom he predestined he also called,

and those whom he called he also justified,  
and those whom he justified he also glorified.  
What then are we to say about these things?  
If God is for us, who is against us?  
He who did not withhold his own Son but gave him up for all of us,  
how will he not with him also give us everything else?  
Who will bring any charge against God's elect?  
It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn?  
It is Christ who died, or rather, who was raised, who is also at the right hand of God,  
who also intercedes for us.  
Who will separate us from the love of Christ?  
Will affliction or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword?  
As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long;  
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered."  
No, in all these things we are more than victorious through him who loved us.  
For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels,  
nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come,  
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,  
nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us  
from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.  
Reader: Holy wisdom, holy Word.  
People: Thanks be to God.

**HYMN**

***The Old Rugged Cross***

**SEE INSERT**

*Please stand as you are able when the hymn is announced.*

**SERMON**

**"All Things Work Together for Good"** Rev. Dr. Brian C. Snyder

**THE APOSTLES' CREED:** PAGE 35 in the hymnal. *Please stand as you are able.*

I Believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth;  
and in Jesus Christ, his Only Son, our Lord,  
Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,  
born of the virgin, Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried.  
He descended into hell;  
the third day he rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty,  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Ghost,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting. Amen.

**SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS**

**PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD’S PRAYER:** PAGE 35 in the hymnal.

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OFFERINGS & GIFTS OF SELF**

**OFFERTORY / SPECIAL MUSIC**

**SUNG RESPONSE (“DOXOLOGY”):**

**HYMN 606 (gendered) or 607 (non-gendered)** *Please stand as you are able.*

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**CLOSING HYMN**

***I Come to the Garden Alone***

**SEE INSERT**

*Please stand as you are able when the hymn is announced.*

**BLESSING**

**POSTLUDE**