

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: AUGUST 9

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 267

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

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 37:1-4, 12-28

Jacob settled in the land where his father had lived as an alien, the land of Canaan. These are the descendants of Jacob.

Joseph, being seventeen years old, was shepherding the flock with his brothers; he was a helper to the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives, and Joseph brought a bad report of them to their father.

Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his children because he was the son of his old age, and he made him an ornamented robe.

But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him and could not speak peaceably to him.

Now his brothers went to pasture their father's flock near Shechem.

And Israel said to Joseph, "Are not your brothers pasturing the flock at Shechem? Come, I will send you to them." He answered, "Here I am."

So he said to him, "Go now, see if it is well with your brothers and with the flock, and bring word back to me."

So he sent him from the valley of Hebron.

He came to Shechem, and a man found him wandering in the fields; the man asked him, "What are you seeking?"

"I am seeking my brothers," he said;

"tell me, please, where they are pasturing the flock."

The man said, "They have gone away, for I heard them say, 'Let us go to Dothan.'"

So Joseph went after his brothers and found them at Dothan.

They saw him from a distance, and before he came near to them they conspired to kill him.

They said to one another, "Here comes this dreamer.

Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits; then we shall say that a wild animal has devoured him, and we shall see what will become of his dreams."

But when Reuben heard it, he delivered him out of their hands, saying, "Let us not take his life."

Reuben said to them, "Shed no blood; throw him into this pit here in the wilderness, but lay no hand on him"—that he might rescue him out of their hand and restore him to his father.

So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the ornamented robe that he wore, and they took him and threw him into a pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it.

Romans 10:5-15

Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that "the person who does these things will live by them."

But the righteousness that comes from faith says,

“Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’ ”

(that is, to bring Christ down)

“or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’ ”

(that is, to bring Christ up from the dead).

But what does it say?

“The word is near you,

in your mouth and in your heart”

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim),

because if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord

and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

For one believes with the heart, leading to righteousness,

and one confesses with the mouth, leading to salvation.

The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.”

For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek;

the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him.

For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed?

And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard?

And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him?

And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent?

As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

Reader: Holy wisdom, holy Word.

People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN 462

I Love to Tell the Story

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

SERMON

“So Close!” 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 300 *We Are One in the Spirit*

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

BLESSING

POSTLUDE