

UNITE IN LOVE

Pre-service Music

Welcome

Prelude

Anthem

“A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing”

Chancel Choir

*Call to Worship

One: God is our shepherd.

ALL: We are the sheep of God’s pasture.

One: God feeds us,

ALL: protects us from danger,

One: binds up our wounds,

ALL: searches for the lost and brings them safely home.

One: Therefore, we praise God,

ALL: joining the song of the church in all times and places.

*Gathering Hymn #44

“Like a Mother Who Has Borne Us”

all verses

GROW IN FAITH

Time for Wonder *children are invited forward*

We Bless Each Other Kids: God be with you as you stay. Congregation: God be with you as you go.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Readings

Ezekiel 34:1-16 (The Inclusive Bible)

¹¹ For thus says Sovereign YHWH: I myself will search for my sheep; I will seek them out.

¹² As shepherds seek out their flocks when their flocks are scattered in every direction, so I will search for my sheep and rescue them, no matter where they scattered on that day of full clouds and thick darkness.

¹³ I will bring them out from the countries and bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by its streams and wherever there is a settlement.

¹⁴ I will feed them on good pasture land, and the mountain heights of Israel will be their grazing ground.

¹⁵ I myself will tend my flock and have it lie down, thus says Sovereign YHWH.

¹⁶ I will seek out the lost, I will return the strayed, I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and I will watch over the fat and the sleek. I will be a true shepherd to them.

Ephesians 1:15-23 (The Inclusive Bible)

¹⁵ From the time I first heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and your love for all of the holy ones,

¹⁶ I have never stopped thanking God for you and remembering you in my prayers.

¹⁷ I pray that the God of our Savior Jesus Christ, the God of glory, will give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation, to bring you to a rich knowledge of the Creator.

¹⁸ I pray that God will enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see the hope this call holds for you—the promised glories that God’s holy ones will inherit,

¹⁹ and the infinitely great power that is exercised for us who believe. You can tell this from the strength of God’s power at work in Jesus,

²⁰ the power used to raise Christ from the dead and to seat Christ in heaven at God’s right hand,

²¹ far above every sovereignty, authority, power or dominion, and above any other name that can be named—not only in this age, but also in the age to come.

²² God has put all things under Christ’s feet and made Christ, as the ruler of everything, the head of the church,

²³ and the church is Christ’s body; it’s the fullness of the One who fills all of creation.

Reflection on the Word

***The Word in Song #274** “You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd”

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**Sovereign God, we confess
that we are not ready for your holy realm.
You guide us toward right paths,
but we refuse to follow where you lead.
You love and feed and care for us,
but we fail to love and serve others.
Forgive us, merciful God,
So that we may return to your fold
and rejoice in your presence.**

Quiet Reflection

Assurance of Grace

One: God seeks the lost, brings back those who have strayed,

binds up the injured, and strengthens the weak.

ALL: We are forgiven and made whole. Thanks be to God!

Our Response to Grace #435 “There is a Wideness in God’s Mercy”

verse 1

REACH OUT TO OTHERS

Prayers of the People

The Lord’s Prayer

Our Creator in heaven, holy is your name, your kin-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kin-dom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Offering Invitation & Dedication

Gifts may be given online at firstprescf.org

***Doxology #606**

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Our Life Together

***Sending Hymn #643**

“Now Thank We All Our God”

Blessing

Postlude