

UNITE IN LOVE

Pre-service

Welcome

Rev. Julie Erkel Hagee

Prelude

Call to Worship

One: We gather in the season of Lent to examine our hearts and our lives

ALL: and journey with Christ through the suffering of the world.

One: Let us pick up our crosses and follow Jesus

ALL: on a path that is lined with God's love.

One: God who has marked us as beloved dust

ALL: calls us and meets us now.

Gathering Hymn #5

“God the Sculptor of the Mountains”

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession

O God, you have made us your covenant people,

marked us as your own and called us to lives of service.

Forgive us when we live as if success were the worthiest aim

or independence the highest virtue.

Call us once more to take up our crosses,

And show us how to follow you.

Forgive us, O God, and wash us in your mercy.

Forgive us, O God, and free us to try again.

Quiet Reflection

Assurance of Grace

One: Friends, hear the good news.

The grace of God overflows for us through Christ Jesus
who came into the world to set us free.

ALL: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and made whole. Thanks be to God!

Response to Grace #654

“In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful”

Anthem "Today We Are Called to Be Disciples"

GROW IN FAITH

Time for Wonder

We Bless Each Other

Kids: God be with you as you stay. ALL: God be with you as you go.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Mark 8:31-38

One: The word of God for the people of God. **ALL: Thanks be to God.**

Reflection on the Word What Does It Mean to Be a Disciple of Jesus?

The Word in Song #320

"The Church of Christ in Every Age"

all verses

REACH OUT TO OTHERS

Offering Invitation & Dedication

Gifts may be given online at firstprescf.org

Doxology #606

Joys and Concerns

Invitation to the Table

One: Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters;
Let those who have no money come and eat.

**ALL: God will satisfy our souls with a rich feast,
And we will bless the Lord as long as we live.**

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

[celebrant continues]

We give you thanks... Even dry bones in the valley of death stand to sing your praise:

**ALL: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in your name.
Hosanna in the highest.**

[celebrant continues]

Sharing the Meal

One: The bread of heaven. **ALL: We are one in the bread we share.** *[all partake of the bread]*

One: The cup of salvation. **ALL: We are one in the cup we share.** *[all partake of the cup]*

Prayer

Our Life Together

***Sending Hymn #747**

“The Lord Now Sends Us Forth”

***Blessing**

Postlude

Prayers of the People

“Spirit of Life,

in the beginning you hovered over creation; still you brood over the world.

We pray for the earth that mourns: for rivers smeared with waste and ground stripped and ravaged.

Do not let us wait too long; do not let us know disaster.

Teach us, what it means to do good. [silence]

We pray for your scattered children: for migrants and refugees,

for the people of Ukraine and all those whose heartbreak is old news, but whose loss is relentless.

We pray for all who cannot rest in safety, who must remain alert to signs of danger

because their countries are riven by war or because their homes are torn by violence

or because they have no shelter but the street. [silence]

Help us to move with compassion toward those who are in need.

We pray for neighbors who are troubled in mind or body or spirit:

for mothers who face hard illness, for brothers haunted by anxious thoughts,

for children who do not know whom they can trust.

In the silence of this room we lift the names and faces we know into the light of your love: [silence]

Search them out; bring them home.

God of holy love, of power and truth, help us neither to bow to fear, nor to be silenced by chaos.

Instead, move us resolutely toward your world in need;

until we share the salvation we have discovered in your name.

We thank you for each sign of your stirring:

for the songs of children, the lingering sunlight, the knitting of shattered bones....

You are present in each reminder of life’s grace.

Patient and persistent God, let that grace and mercy overflow from our lives

that we might honor your name in the world;

for we pray in the name of Jesus, who came to seek and save what was lost. Amen.”

With thanks that you hear our prayers, spoken and unspoken,

we entrust all of life to you, now we pray as Jesus taught us...

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.