

~ ORDER OF WORSHIP ~

**Please stand, if able.*

***Bold** denotes unison response.*

CHIMES

Karen Needham

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Brief announcements from the congregation are welcome. **Those wishing to make an announcement** are asked to be in the front pews at the start of the announcement period. **Prayer request cards** may be found on the tables at the back of the church. **Offerings** may be placed in the marked boxes on the tables at the back of the church.*

PRELUDE *Blest Are They*

David Haas

CALL TO WORSHIP

Here we gather to welcome the day,
seeking the presence of God, the mind of Christ,
the breath of the Spirit.

Here we gather to welcome each other,
seeking the strength of faith, the power of hope,
the renewal of wisdom.

Touched by the mysteries of love and grace,
we open our hearts and minds,
**for God is in the midst of us
and we are in the midst of God.**

***HYMN** *The Sun Is on the Sea and Shore* 3, Chalice (blue)

*The sun is on the sea and shore, a new day has begun;
With morning hymns we will adore the blessed Three-in-One;
And we shall praise you evermore until the day is done.*

*Your love is ever in our view, like shining stars by night;
Your gifts are every morning new, O God of love and light;
Your mercy, like the heaven's blue, fills all our dazzled sight.*

*We do not know what grief and care each coming day may bring;
The heart shall find some gladness there that trusts you in each thing;
The life that serves you everywhere will never cease to sing.*

*GATHERING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Life-giving God,
we give thanks that you call us together in community,
to share life in its blessing and challenge,
to share faith in its wisdom and gifts.
Awaken us today to hear the teaching of Christ,
who bids us come and follow the way of love,
the way of trust,
the way of peace.
In his name and spirit we pray, as we also say together:

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 debts
as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power
and the glory forever. Amen.

*SUNG RESPONSE *Bless God, O My Soul*



The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. The first staff contains the melody and accompaniment for the first line of the response: "Bless God, O my soul! All with - in me bless God's name!". The second staff continues the melody and accompaniment for the second line: "Bless God, who was, and is, and shall ev - er be the same!". The music is written in a simple, accessible style suitable for a church service.

ANTHEM *Bless Now, O God, The Journey* Swedish folk tune words Sylvia Sunstan
Members of the Senior Choir

Following this, children may go out to church school.

READING FROM SCRIPTURE Luke 6:17-26

SERMON *The View from Below*

DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS

Into a world of beauty and need you call us, Holy One,
to be reflections of your light,
to be bearers of the love of Christ.

May all that we give of ourselves, in the church and in the world,
become the work of love, for the sake of the gospel
and for the healing of your beloved creation. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Joys and Concerns, Pastoral Prayer

*HYMN *In the Bulb There Is a Flower* 638, Chalice (blue)

*In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree;
In cocoons, a hidden promise, butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be,
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.*

*There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody;
There's a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future, what it holds, a mystery,
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.*

*In our end is our beginning, in our time, infinity;
In our doubt there is believing, in our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory,
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.*

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Amen*

*POSTLUDE *Christ Upon the Mountain Peak* tune Mowsley Cyril Vincent Taylor