GATHERING

Opening Sentences

One: The Lord be with you.
All: And also with you.

Our help is in the name of the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.
The Lord's name be praised!

Opening Prayer †

God of grace and glory, in the beginning you brought light from darkness, created the world, made us in your image, and set us on the Way. And so we praise you.

Text and Tune: Ron Rienstra © Ron Rienstra
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Ha-le-lu-jah, Lord Most High!

This would have been enough. But when we had lost the plot, you gave your Word to your chosen people to show us the Way. And so we praise you.

Sing: Hallelujah, Lord Most High.

This would have been enough. But you came among us in Jesus the Christ, who stretched out his arms to fulfill that Way. And so we praise you.

Sing: Hallelujah, Lord Most High.

* Please rise in body or in spirit.
† Many will recognize the refrain in this responsive reading to be an adaptation of the Jewish Passover song “Dayenu.”
This would have been enough.
But you sent your Spirit
to cleanse us, renew us,
and to join us to that Way.
And so we praise you.

Sing: Hallelujah, Lord Most High.

* Song of Praise and Confidence: “How Firm a Foundation”

1 How firm a foun-da-tion you saints of the Lord,
2 “Fear not, I am with you, O be not dis-mayed,
3 “When through the deep wa-ters I call you to go,
4 “When through fi-ery tri-als your path-way shall lie,
5 “The soul that on Je-sus has leaned for re-pose

is laid for your faith in his ex-cellent Word!
for I am your God and will still give you aid;
> the riv-ers of sor-row shall not o-ver-flow,
my grace all-suf-fi-cient shall be your sup-ply;
I will not, I will not de-sert to its foes;

What more can he say than to you he has said,
I’ll strength-en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
> for I will be with you in trou-ble to bless,
the flame shall not hurt you; I on-ly de-sign
that soul, though all hell should en-deav-or to shake,

to you who for ref-uge to Je-sus have fled?
up-held by my right-eous, om-nip-o-tent hand.
> and sanc-ti-fy to you your deep-est dis-tress.
your dross to con-sume and your gold to re-fine.
I’ll nev-er, no nev-er, no nev-er for-sake!”

Text: Isaiah 43:1-5; J. Rippon’s Selection of Hymns, 1787, alt., P.D.
Tune: FOUNDATION, 11.11.11.11; J. Funk’s A Compilation of Genuine Church Music, 1832; arr. Ron Rienstra, 2019
LAMENT

An Enactment Prayer

Habakkuk 1:2–4
... lamenting the violence in our hearts
... silence

Habakkuk 1:5–7
... lamenting our gluttonous possession
... silence
... sing “Gbemi Jesu”

Habakkuk 2:9–11, 15–17
... lamenting our consumption of creatures and creation
... silence
... sing “Gbemi Jesu”

Habakkuk 2:18–20
... lamenting our grasping at idols
... silence

Song of Response: “How Can I Keep from Singing”

Verses

1 My life flows on in endless song; above earth’s lamentation,
2 Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear that music ringing.
3 What though my joys and comforts die? The Lord my Savior liveth.
4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing!

Text and Tune: GBEMI, JESU; Yoruba, author and composer unknown

Yoruba Gbe-mi, gbe-mi, Je-su. Amen.
English Lift me, lift me, Je sus. Amen.

No storm can shake my in most calm while
to that Rock I’m clinging.

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826–1899, P.D.
Tune: HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING, 8.7.8.7 with refrain 8.7.8.7; Robert Lowry, alt., P.D.; arr. Greg Scheer © Greg Scheer
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Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading: Habakkuk 3:17-19

Though the fig tree does not blossom,
and no fruit is on the vines;
though the produce of the olive fails,
and the fields yield no food;
though the flock is cut off from the fold,
and there is no herd in the stalls,
yet I will rejoice in the Lord;
I will exult in the God of my salvation.

Gon, the Lord, is my strength;
he makes my feet like the feet of a deer,
and makes me tread upon the heights.

Sermon: Yet I Will Rejoice
RESPONSE * Song of Response: “All Must Be Well”

1 Through the love of God our Savior, all will be well;
2 Though we pass through tribulation, all will be well.
3 We expect a bright tomorrow, all will be well.

free and changeless is his favor, all is well.
Ours is such a full salvation, all is well.
Faith can sing through days of sorrow, all is well.

Precious is the blood that healed us,
Happy still in God confiding,
On our Father’s love relying,

perfect is the grace that sealed us,
fruitful if in Christ abiding,
Jesus every need supplying,

strong the hand stretched forth to shield us, all must be well.
steadfast through the Spirit’s guiding, all must be well.
yes in living and in dying, all must be well.

Text: Mary Bowley Peters, Matthew S. Smith © 2007 Detuned Radio Music
Tune: Matthew S. Smith © 2007 Detuned Radio Music
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Prayers of the People
Remembrance of Baptism and Profession of Faith: “Neither Death nor Life”

All sing as directed.

Text and Tune: NEITHER DEATH; from Romans 8:38-39, Marty Haugen © 2001 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-703303.
* Song of Praise: “What Wondrous Love”

What wondrous love is this, O my soul! What wondrous love is this when I was sinking down, sinking down; when I was sinking down to God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb, and when from death I’m free, I’ll sing on; and when from death I’m free,

that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dreadful curse beneath God’s righteous frown, Christ laid aside his crown who is the great I AM—while lions join the theme, I’ll sing and joyful be, and through eternity

for my soul, for my soul, to bear the dreadful curse for my soul? for my soul, for my soul, Christ laid aside his crown for my soul. I will sing, I will sing, while lions join the theme, I will sing. I’ll sing on, I’ll sing on, and through eternity I’ll sing on.

Text: S. Mead’s A General Selection, 1811, P.D.
Tune: WONDROUS LOVE, 12.9.12.12.9; W. Walker’s Southern Harmony, 1835

SENDING

* Benediction

* Closing Sentences

One: Bless the Lord.

All: The Lord’s name be praised!

Announcements

We are grateful for the planning and leading of this service by the faculty, staff, and students from Western Theological Seminary, under the direction of Ron Rienstra. Sue Rozeboom, liturgist, with Megan Dalman and Seth VanderBroek; Hannah Barker Nickolay, embodied scripture reading; and Cornelius Plantinga Jr., preaching.