



## Morning Worship

March 26, 2023

### Preparation for Worship

**Kathleen Wilkins**, organist

*How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God!*

*How great is the sum of them!*

*If I should count them, they would be more in number than the sand;*

*When I awake, I am still with You.*

*Search me, O God, and know my heart;*

*Try me, and know my anxious ways;*

*And see if there is any wicked way in me,*

*And lead me in the way everlasting. ~ Psalm 129: 17-18, 23-24*

### Invitation to Worship

#### ***Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing***

Come, Thou Fount of every blessing;

Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;

Streams of mercy, never ceasing,

Call for songs of loudest praise.

Teach me some melodious sonnet,

Sung by flaming tongues above;

Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,

Mount of Thy redeeming love!

Here I raise mine Ebenezer;

Hither by Thy help I'm come;

And I hope, by Thy good pleasure,

Safely to arrive at home.

Jesus sought me when a stranger,

Wandering from the fold of God;

He, to rescue me from danger,

Interposed His precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor

Daily I'm constrained to be!

Let Thy grace, Lord, like a fetter,

Bind my wandering heart to Thee.

Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,

Prone to leave the God I love;

Here's my heart; Lord, take and seal it;

Seal it for Thy courts above.

### Words of Welcome

**Christian Johns**, Youth Minister

## Songs of Assurance

### ***Be Still, My Soul***

Be still, my soul; the Lord is on your side;  
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;  
Leave to your God to order and provide;  
In every change God faithful will remain.  
Be still, my soul; your best, your heav'nly friend  
Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul; your God will undertake  
To guide the future as in ages past;  
Your hope, your confidence, let nothing shake;  
All now mysterious shall be bright at last.  
Be still, my soul; the waves and winds still know  
The Christ who ruled them while He dwelt below.

Be still, my soul; the hour is hast'ning on  
When we shall be forever with the Lord,  
When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,  
Sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.  
Be still my soul; when change and tears are past,  
All safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

## Choral Worship

### ***You Do Not Walk Alone***

*a traditional Irish Blessing*

*music by Elaine Hagenberg*

***Dr. Sarah Spencer, pianist***

*May you see God's light on the road ahead when the road you walk is dark.*

*May you always bear, even in your hour of sorrow, the gentle singing of the lark.*

*When times are hard may hardness never turn your heart to stone.*

*May you always remember when the shadows fall, you do not walk alone.*

## Pastoral Prayer

**Dr. Steve Laufer, Senior Pastor**

## Hymn No. 186

### ***When I Survey the Wondrous Cross***

When I survey the wondrous cross  
On which the Prince of glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss,  
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast  
Save in the death of Christ, my God!  
All the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them to His blood.

See, from His head, His hands, His feet,  
Sorrow and love flow mingled down.  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,  
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
That were a present far too small.  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

## **Sermon**

**Dr. Laufer**

*Stairway to Heaven*  
*Acts 12*

## **Closing Song**

*Lord, Here Am I*

Master, Thou callest, I gladly obey;  
Only direct me, and I'll find Thy way.  
Teach me the mission appointed for me,  
What is my labor, and where it shall be.

### ***Chorus:***

Master, Thou callest, and this I reply,  
"Ready and willing, Lord, here am I."

Willing, my Savior, to take up the cross;  
Willing to suffer reproaches and loss.  
Willing to follow, if Thou wilt but lead;  
Only support me with grace in my need.

### ***Chorus***

## **Postlude**

**Kathleen Wilkins**