Sunday, May 6, 2012 8:00am

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As the prelude plays, silently come into the Lord’s presence.

Open your heart and give yourself up to Christ

who is here to meet you today.

*“Be still and know that I am God.”* Psalm 46:10

PRELUDE *“Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing”* - arr. Lloyd Larson

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS / RINGING OF THE BELL

 (Please sign the Fellowship Pad and pass it to your neighbor)

CALL TO WORSHIP *Psalm 31*

 Leader: O how abundant is Your goodness that You have laid up for those who fear You, and accomplished for those who take refuge in You in the sight of everyone.

 ***People: Love the Lord, all you His saints.***

 ***The Lord preserves the faithful.***

\*HYMN *“O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”* *No. 466*

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Lord of all creation, You have formed us from the dust and given us purpose for our years. You have good planned for all of our lives. We celebrate You in our midst and worship You our faithful and always loving God. You provide us with opportunities that we don’t deserve. Thank you. But You also ask us to let others know about this love that we enjoy in our lives. You give us the responsibility to share Your message of grace, hope, and redemption. But we remain silent, afraid of repercussions. Forgive us Lord. We pray this in Jesus’ name. Amen.**

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\*SHARING SIGNS OF PEACE

*[Please share Christ’s peace with one another with*

 *handshakes, hugs, kisses—however you feel led.]*

ANTHEM *“There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”* -

 Lee Dengler, words by Frederick Faber

There’s a wideness in God’s mercy, like the wideness of the sea,

There’s a kindness in God’s justice, which is more than liberty.

There’s no place where earthly sorrows are more felt than in God’s heav’n.

There’s no place where earthly failings have such kindly judgment giv’n.

For the love of God is broader than the measures of our minds;

and the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.

But we make God’s love too narrow by false limits of our own;

and we magnify God’s strictness with a zeal God will not own.

If our love were but more faithful, we would gladly trust God’s Word;

and our lives would show thanksgiving for the goodness of our God.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING *Malachi 3:1-4 (OT p889)*

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING *John 1:6-13 (NT p91)*

SERMON **The Gospel of John**
 *“Don’t Shoot the Messenger”* Rev. Robert K. Bronkema

\*HYMN *“Jesus Shall Reign Where’er the Sun”* *No. 423*

WE BRING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

 OFFERTORY *“This Little Light of Mine”* - arr. Dr. Calvin Taylor

 \*DOXOLOGY

 *Praise God from whom all blessings flow, praise Him, all creatures here below.
 Praise Him above, ye heavenly host, praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

Prayers of the People & The Lord’s Prayer *(pg. 16 in the hymnal)*

 Words of Institution

 Welcome

 Distribution

*\*[Worshipers: please hold the bread, that we may eat together*

*as Christ’s one people. Please drink as you are ready,*

*in acknowledgment of our individual standing before the Lord.]*

\*ALLELUIA

\*BENEDICTION

**Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me. Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be. With God as our Father, brothers all are we. Let me walk with my brother in perfect harmony. Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now. With every step I take let this be my solemn vow. To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally. Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.**

\*POSTLUDE *“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*” - arr. Ann Krentz Organ

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***“Come As You Are”***

10:45am

\*Praise & Worship

Greeting & Announcements

Prayer & Peace

Children’s Message

Scripture Reading

 *Malachi 3:1-4*

 *John 1:6-13*

Sermon *“Don’t Shoot the Messenger”*

Offertory

\*Closing Song

\*Benediction

Sermon Notes: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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