



## CALL TO WORSHIP

*“Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost. Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labour on what does not satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good, and you will delight in the richest of fare. Give ear and come to me; listen, that you may live. I will make an everlasting covenant with you, my faithful love promised to David”.* (Isaiah 55:1-3)

The world belongs to God, the earth and all its people.

***How good and how lovely it is to live together in unity.***

If the Lord’s disciples keep silent, these stones would shout aloud.

***Lord, open our lips and our mouths shall proclaim Your praise.***

Come, let us worship God.

**HYMN: 221 “Glory to God on High”**

## INVOCATION

Come to us, O God of surprising grace. Break into the places in our lives which we think are not worthy of Your entry and show us the measure of Your love for us. Break through into newness in all our life together, O God, in the wonder of Your transforming presence. ***Amen!***

**RESPONSIVE READING**      *Isaiah 63:1-8*

You, God, are my God, earnestly I seek you;  
I thirst for You, my whole being longs for You, in a dry and parched land where there is no water.

***I have seen You in the sanctuary and seen Your power and Your glory.***

Because Your love is better than life, my lips will glorify You.

***I will praise You as long as I live, and in Your name I will lift up my hands.***

My soul will be satisfied as with the richest of foods; with singing lips my mouth will praise You.

***On my bed I remember You; I think of You through the watches of the night.***

Because You are my help, I sing in the shadow of Your wings.

***My soul clings to You; Your right hand upholds me.***

## TIME TO PRAY

*In silence please offer your prayers to the Father in the name of the Lord Jesus.*

## THE LORD’S PRAYER

**HYMN: 703 “As the Deer Pants for the Water”**

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

***Our loving God and Father, we do not pretend that our lives are good enough for Your friendship or approval. We have lived in Your world as if You were insignificant and sometimes as if You were irrelevant. We have pushed our own ideas and projects, forgetting Your kindness to us and Your authority over us. Especially we have failed to appreciate the greatness and goodness of Your Son Jesus Christ, who lived and died and rose among us. Yet, You are full of love and forgiveness, the very gifts that Jesus died to bring to those who ask. For His sake forgive us, and work in us to make us grateful, faithful and joyful people. In His name we pray. Amen!***

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

The Lord our God is merciful and forgiving, even though we have rebelled against Him; we have not obeyed the Lord our God or kept the laws He gave us through His servants the prophets. (*Daniel 9.9-10*)

## LENTEN PRAYER

***God, we know that You come to us in the creation You have made, and through people in Your image and likeness. Sometimes it is difficult to hear Your voice speak in new ways to us in the Scriptures. We find it hard to see clearly what is habit or an inappropriate part of our culture, that has crept into how we see and hear and understand Your voice and guidance. Sometimes we hold on to old ways and values in caring for the earth and treasuring each other. May the Christ Light remind us how much new light You have to bring. May we be helped to see the difference between what binds us and frees us to meet, know and follow You in our various cultures and experiences. Guide us by the Light! Guide us by Your Spirit. In Jesus’ name we pray Amen!***

**HYMN: 211(i) “Jesus, Lover of My Soul”**