

## Gathering for God's Word

Prelude

Choral Introit

#2088, "Lord, I Lift Your Name on High" Sing the Faith Hymnal

Lord I lift Your name on high  
Lord I love to sing Your praises  
I'm so glad You're in my life  
I'm so glad You came to save us

You came from heaven to earth to show the way  
From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay  
From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky  
Lord I lift Your name on high

Welcome & Announcements

Time of Silence & Ringing of the Bell

Call to Worship

[based on Psalm 19]

Leader: Let us come into this sacred space to worship God

**People: Whose teaching is perfect and whose directions are sure.**

Leader: Let us come into this holy place to worship God

**People: Whose standards are right, whose commandment is clear, and whose judgements are true.**

Leader: Let us come with holy fear –

**People: To be given new life, to be made wise, to have our heart stirred and our eyes opened wide.**

Leader: Come, let us worship God.

**People: Let the words of our mouths and the whispering of our hearts be according to your will, O God. Amen.**

## Preparing for God's Word

Hymn of Adoration

#263, "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

All hail the power of Jesus' Name! Let angels prostrate fall;  
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown Him Lord of all,  
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown Him Lord of all.

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race, ye ransomed from the fall,  
Hail Him Who saves you by His grace, and crown Him Lord of all,  
Hail Him Who saves you by His grace, and crown Him Lord of all.

Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe, on this terrestrial ball,  
To Him all majesty ascribe, and crown Him Lord of all,  
To Him all majesty ascribe, and crown Him Lord of all.

O that with yonder sacred throng, we at His feet may fall,  
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown Him Lord of all,  
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown Him Lord of all!

#### Prayer of Confession

[time of silent confession]

**All: God of compassion and mercy, hear us today as we make our confession. Lord, even though Christ preaches repentance; we often ignore his call to repent. Your new day is proclaimed, yet too often we dwell on the past. We do not always turn from our evil ways, nor are we always willing to share with you those things that we treasure the most. We may often say that we wish to obey you, but our deeds betray us. By your grace, God, we ask that you would renew us, and cleanse us of sin; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

#### Assurance of Pardon

[based on Acts 13:38; Ephesians 1:7]

Leader: Hear the Good News! Through Jesus Christ, forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to us.

**People: In Christ we have redemption through his blood and the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of God's grace.**

Leader: Thanks be to God!

### Hearing God's Word

#### Time with Young Disciples

Ages 12 and under gather up front as congregation sings "Jesus Loves Me." After the Children's Message, the children may return to sit with their families.

#### Hymn of Preparation

#2086, "Open Our Eyes"

Open our eyes Lord  
We want to see Jesus  
To reach out and touch Him  
And say that we love Him  
Open our ears Lord  
And Help us to listen  
Open our eyes Lord  
We want to see Jesus

## Prayer of Illumination

### New Testament Reading: Mark 6: 14-29

14 King Herod heard about this, for Jesus' name had become well known. Some were saying, "John the Baptist has been raised from the dead, and that is why miraculous powers are at work in him."

15 Others said, "He is Elijah."

And still others claimed, "He is a prophet, like one of the prophets of long ago."

16 But when Herod heard this, he said, "John, the man I beheaded, has been raised from the dead!"

17 For Herod himself had given orders to have John arrested, and he had him bound and put in prison. He did this because of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, whom he had married. 18 For John had been saying to Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." 19 So Herodias nursed a grudge against John and wanted to kill him. But she was not able to, 20 because Herod feared John and protected him, knowing him to be a righteous and holy man. When Herod heard John, he was greatly puzzled; yet he liked to listen to him.

21 Finally the opportune time came. On his birthday Herod gave a banquet for his high officials and military commanders and the leading men of Galilee. 22 When the daughter of Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his dinner guests.

The king said to the girl, "Ask me for anything you want, and I'll give it to you." 23 And he promised her with an oath, "Whatever you ask I will give you, up to half my kingdom."

24 She went out and said to her mother, "What shall I ask for?"

"The head of John the Baptist," she answered.

25 At once the girl hurried in to the king with the request: "I want you to give me right now the head of John the Baptist on a platter."

26 The king was greatly distressed, but because of his oaths and his dinner guests, he did not want to refuse her. 27 So he immediately sent an executioner with orders to bring John's head. The man went, beheaded John in the prison, 28 and brought back his head on a platter. He presented it to the girl, and she gave it to her mother. 29 On hearing of this, John's disciples came and took his body and laid it in a tomb.

## Sermon

"Cross Purposes... Two For Me- None For You "

### **Responding to God's Word**

#### Affirmation of Faith

The Scots' Confession of 1560 [Modern version- 3.01]

Leader: What do we believe about who God is?

**People: We confess one God alone, to whom alone we must cleave, whom alone we must serve, whom alone we must worship, and in whom alone we put our trust. God is eternal, infinite, unmeasurable, incomprehensible, omnipotent, and invisible; one in substance and yet distinct in three persons, the Father, the**

**Son, and the Holy Spirit. Through God we believe that all things in heaven and earth, visible and invisible, have been created. We believe that it is through God that all things continue to hold together. And we believe that it is God who rules and guides all things by his mysterious providence so that in the end his eternal wisdom, goodness, and justice will prevail, and his glory will be demonstrated to all.**

Hymn of Response

#307, "God of Grace and God of Glory"

God of grace and God of glory,  
on thy people pour thy power;  
crown thine ancient church's story;  
bring its bud to glorious flower.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
for the facing of thls hour,  
for the facing of thls hour.

Lo! the hosts of evil round us,  
scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!  
From the fears that long have bound us,  
free our hearts to faith and praise.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
for the living of these days,  
for the living of these days.

Cure thy children's warring madness,  
bend our pride to thy control;  
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,  
rich in things and poor in soul.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal,  
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

Save us from weak resignation  
to the evils we deplore;  
let the gift of thy salvation  
be our glory evermore.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
serving thee whom we adore,  
serving thee whom we adore.

Prayers of the People

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right for us to give thanks and praise.**

[particular prayers]

Leader: Lord in your mercy

**People: Hear our prayers.**

The Lord's Prayer

**All: 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. 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.**

Anthem

“Broken Vessels”

Joybells Gospel Team Choir

Benediction

Benediction Response

#306, “Blest Be the Ties That Binds” vs. 1,3

Blest be the tie that binds  
Our hearts in Christian love;  
The fellowship of kindred minds  
Is like to that above.

We share our mutual woes,  
Our mutual burdens bear,  
And often for each other flows  
The sympathizing tear.

Postlude