

## Order of Worship January 8, 2023

Welcome

### Call to Worship

God calls to the lost, the least, and all who long for home;  
God calls when we wander from the path chosen for us  
and waste the gifts we have been given.  
God calls and welcomes us back to worship this day.  
We come to hear the stories  
of other people  
in another world  
long ago.

**We come to hear the stories  
that are also about us  
today  
in this place.**

God, give us ears to listen.  
eyes to see,  
hearts to accept.

**Let us worship God together  
as we celebrate and rejoice in His presence!**

*Song: O Come to the Altar*

God's Greeting

We Greet Each Other

*Song: Our God*

### Prayer of Confession

We confess you to be the God who calls,  
who wills,  
who summons,  
who has intentions for your creation,  
and uses human agents to do your will.

We imagine ourselves called by you . . .  
called but cowardly,  
obedient but self-indulgent,  
devoted to you, but otherwise preoccupied.

**In our strange mix of answering and refusing—  
We give thanks for your call on us.  
We pray this day,  
for a fresh vision,  
for great courage,  
for deep freedom to answer your call  
and to encourage all those who want to walk your paths.  
May we be haunted by your large purposes in us and our world.**

Lord,

Create in us clean hearts,

Renew your spirit within us.

Do not turn us away from your presence,

do not take your holy spirit from us.

Restore to us the joy of your salvation,  
and sustain in us a willing spirit.  
Write on our hearts your love O God,  
Amen.

*Song: He Knows My Name*

Words of Assurance

**In Christ we are restored to the joy of God's salvation,  
and by God's grace**

**our spirits are remade to follow God's will.**

**Thanks be to God!**

*Song: Yet Not I But Through Christ in Me*

Children's Blessing

Prayer of Illumination

Reading of Scripture

Sermon

*Song: The Same Love*

Congregational Prayer

Offering (Stephen's Ministry presentation)

God's Parting Blessing

*Song: Ancient of Days*