

BULLETIN NOTATIONS

VU-Voices United Hymn Book | **MV**-More Voices Hymn Book
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* *Indicates to please stand, if able*

**GOOD NEWS REMINDER: “To love another person is to see
the face of God.” – Les Misérables**

PRELUDE

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

INTROIT:

**We are one in the bond of love. We are one in the bond of love.
We have joined our spirit with the Spirit of God.
We are one in the bond of love. HWC 281**

CALL TO WORSHIP: (responsively)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

I was glad when they said to me

let us go into the house of the Lord.

Let us give thanks with all our hearts

for all His lovingkindness and truth.

Serve the Lord with gladness.

We will come before Him with a joyful song in our hearts.

We know that the Lord Himself is our God.

It is He who has made us and not we ourselves.

We have not forsaken the gathering of ourselves together,

but have entered the Holy Place of His presence with thanksgiving.

Surely the Lord is in this place.

Let us worship. Let us pray.

OPENING PRAYER: (in unison)

Gracious and loving God

we welcome Your holy presence this morning.

May our praises build You a dwelling in this place.

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**Open the eyes and ears of our hearts this morning we pray.
Deepen our understanding and knowledge of You and Your Word
as Your Holy Spirit leads us further into Truth.**

**Continue to make us over
until we are transformed into Your likeness
and we may think with the mind of Christ.
In Whose Name we gather and we pray. Amen.**

***HYMN OF PRAISE VU 410: “This Day God Gives Me”**

THIS TIME OF REFLECTION AND CONFESSION is to prepare our hearts
and minds to hear God’s word to us.

**Lord God, you have shown us such love,
and stretched out your arms
to draw us into your embrace.**

**You have given us so many gifts and abilities
to be lights in our family, our community
and in the market place.**

**Forgive us when we fail to be a light
or when we hide our light under a bushel.**

**Forgive us the many times
when we waste opportunities
to dispel the darkness of ignorance and injustice.**

**Transform us, through your Spirit,
and empower us to serve you
this day and all days.**

SILENT REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

The Lord is slow to anger, willing to forgive, full of Grace.

Draw near to Him. Live now as a forgiven person.

Thanks be to God.

SING TOGETHER: VU 662

**Lead me, Lord,
Lead me in Your righteousness.
Make Your way known before my face.
For it is You and You Lord only
who makes me dwell in safety.**

LAY READER: Margret Bousfield

RESPONSIVE PSALM 15 – VU pg. 736

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Numbers 13: 1-3, 17-33

The Lord said to Moses, ‘Send men to spy out the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the Israelites; from each of their ancestral tribes you shall send a man, every one a leader among them.’ So Moses sent them from the wilderness of Paran, according to the command of the Lord, all of them leading men among the Israelites.

Moses sent them to spy out the land of Canaan, and said to them, ‘Go up there into the Negeb, and go up into the hill country, and see what the land is like, and whether the people who live in it are strong or weak, whether they are few or many, and whether the land they live in is good or bad, and whether the towns that they live in are unwalled or fortified, and whether the land is rich or poor, and whether there are trees in it or not. Be bold, and bring some of the fruit of the land.’ Now it was the season of the first ripe grapes.

So they went up and spied out the land from the wilderness of Zin to Rehob, near Lebo-hamath. They went up into the Negeb, and came to Hebron; and Ahiman, Sheshai, and Talmaj, the Anakites, were there. (Hebron was built seven years before Zoan in Egypt.) And they came to the Wadi Eshcol, and cut down from there a branch with a single cluster of grapes, and they carried it on a pole between two of them. They also brought some pomegranates and figs. That place was called the Wadi Eshcol, because of the cluster that the Israelites cut down from there.

At the end of forty days they returned from spying out the land. And they came to Moses and Aaron and to all the congregation of the Israelites in the wilderness of Paran, at Kadesh; they brought back word to them and to all the congregation, and showed them the fruit of the land. And they told him, ‘We came to the land to which you sent us; it flows with milk and honey, and this is its fruit. Yet the people who live in the land are strong, and the towns are fortified and very large; and besides, we saw the descendants of Anak there. The Amalekites live in the land of the Negeb; the Hittites, the Jebusites, and the Amorites live in the hill country; and the Canaanites live by the sea, and along the Jordan.’

But Caleb quieted the people before Moses, and said, ‘Let us go up at once and occupy it, for we are well able to overcome it.’ Then the men who had gone up with him said, ‘We are not able to go up against this people, for they are stronger than we are.’ So they brought to the Israelites an unfavourable report of the land that they had spied out, saying, ‘The land that we have gone through as spies is a land that devours its inhabitants; and all the people that we saw in it are of great size. There we saw the Nephilim (the Anakites come from the Nephilim); and to ourselves we seemed like grasshoppers, and so we seemed to them.’

Philippians 3: 1-14

Finally, my brothers and sisters, rejoice in the Lord.

To write the same things to you is not troublesome to me, and for you it is a safeguard.

Beware of the dogs, beware of the evil workers, beware of those who mutilate the flesh! For it is we who are the circumcision, who worship in the Spirit of God and boast in Christ Jesus and have no confidence in the flesh—even though I, too, have reason for confidence in the flesh. If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on towards the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Let us hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Thanks be to God.

CHOIR ANTHEM: "Jesus Is My Lord!" – *Price/Besig*

INVITATION TO OFFERING

***SUNG RESPONSE:** VU 537

**Your work, O God, needs many hands
to help you everywhere,
and some there are who cannot serve
unless our gifts we share.**

**Because we love you and your work,
our offering now we make:
be pleased to use it as your own,
we ask for Jesus' sake.**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION:** *(in unison)*

**Holy God of holy ground,
like Moses, we question our fitness
to serve heaven's purposes on earth.**

Overcome our doubts

with the assurance of your presence.

Bless these offerings that, through them,

we may do your will; in the name of the Christ. Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER (*Lord hear our prayer and in your love, answer*)

THE LORD'S PRAYER: *(sung - VU 959)*

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins,

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial

and deliver us from evil

**for the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,
now and forever.**

***HYMN VU 675:** "Will Your Anchor Hold"

MESSAGE: "Are We Frogs or Grasshoppers?"

"You can do all things through Christ who strengthens you."

***CLOSING HYMN VU 510:** "We Have This Ministry"

BENEDICTION

3-FOLD AMEN

POSTLUDE

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LARGE PRINT HYMNS and RESPONSIVE PSALMS

are available on the pew as you enter the sanctuary.

You are welcome to use these packages during the service.

AFTER WORSHIP, everyone is invited to stay
for refreshments and fellowship
in the Board Room & Friendship Room on the lower level.