

Sunday, October 31<sup>st</sup>

## Prelude

### Welcome and Announcements



### \*Call to Worship

Leader: We gather to worship God alone,

**People: Soli Deo gloria!**

Leader: We gather as people reformed and reforming,

**People: proclaiming the cornerstones of our faith:**

Leader: Scripture alone, Christ alone,

**People: faith alone, grace alone, glory always, to God alone.**

### \*Hymn # 305 – Come Sing, O church in Joy!

### Call to Confession

#### Prayer of Confession

God of grace and mercy, we often say that we love you with all our heart, soul, mind and strength, but when we look closely at our lives, we confess that our hearts are full of concerns that are not your concerns. Our souls are neglected. You are barely on our minds, and our strength is depleted by things that do not have anything to do with you. Please forgive us our sin. Cleanse us. Renew us. Reform us. Make us ever new. We ask this in the name of the One who died to set us free, Jesus the Christ. Amen.

### Assurance of Pardon

### \*Passing of the Peace

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

### Prayer of Illumination

#### Scripture: Ruth 1:1-18

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### Sermon: Staying the Course

#### Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### Special Music

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## **Prayers of the People**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

**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; and 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.**

**\*Hymn # 694 – Great God of Every Blessing**

**\*Charge and Benediction**

**\*Congregational Response: Hymn # 606 – Doxology**

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

**Postlude**

THE CHURCH

# 305 Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!

1 Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!  
2 Long years have come and gone, and still God reigns su - preme,  
3 Let cour - age be our friend; let wis - dom be our guide,  
4 Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!

For Christ the Lord has led us through the a - ges long!  
em - power - ing us to catch the vi - sion, dream the dream!  
as we in mis - sion mag - ni - fy the Cru - ci - fied!  
For Christ the Lord has tri - umphed o'er the a - ges long!

In bold ac - cord, come cel - e - brate the jour - ney now and praise the Lord!

This text was the winner in a hymn competition sponsored by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Bicentennial Committee for the 1988–1989 observance, which had the theme “Celebrate the Journey.” The late 18th-century tune (first used with Psalm 148) is appropriately celebratory.

DEDICATION AND STEWARDSHIP

# 694 Great God of Every Blessing

1 Great God of ev - ery bless - ing, of faith - ful, lov - ing care,  
2 Your Word is our sal - va - tion, the source of end - less grace,  
3 Your Spir - it is our teach - er, the light that guides our search,

you are the fount of good - ness, the dai - ly bread we share.  
in death and life ex - tend - ing your cov - e - nant em - brace.  
trans - form - ing bro - ken peo - ple in - to the ho - ly church.

How can we hope to thank you? Our praise is but a start:  
In Christ we are one bod - y; each mem - ber has a part:  
For feed - ing us with mer - cy, for wis - dom you im - part:

sin - cere - ly and com - plete - ly I of - fer you my heart.

Written for the 500th anniversary of John Calvin's birth, this text sums up his liturgical theology, ending each stanza with his motto: *Cor meum tibi offero, Domine, prompte et sincere*. By moving from plural to singular the stanzas show how corporate faith becomes personal piety.