## Prelude

#### **Welcome and Announcements**



# \*Call to Worship

Leader: We are ambassadors for Christ.

People: God has entrusted to us the message of reconciliation.

Leader: We gather as God's beloved family to worship God and offer our praise.

People: Let us join our hearts in song and in prayer.

\*Hymn # 475 – Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

#### Call to Confession

# **Prayer of Confession**

Eternal God, we know that we are your good creation; made in your image and called to reflect your goodness. In Jesus Christ, you redeemed our brokenness and brought us into right relationship with you. And yet, despite our best efforts, and sometimes due to our worst efforts, we have sinned. Our sin leaves us feeling alienated and distant from what we love. Forgive us, we pray. Bring us back to wholeness, that we might witness to joy, for the sake of our crucified and risen Lord, Jesus 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:** Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

**Sermon:** The Prodigal Son

**Affirmation of Faith:** The Confession of 1967

To be reconciled to God is to be sent into the world as God's reconciling community.

This community, the church universal, is entrusted with God's message of reconciliation and shares God's labor of healing the enmities which separate people from God and from each other.

Christ has called the church to this mission and given it the gift of the Holy Spirit.

The church maintains continuity

Sunday, March 27<sup>th</sup>
with the apostles and with Israel
by faithful obedience to his call. Amen.

**Special Music** 

**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.

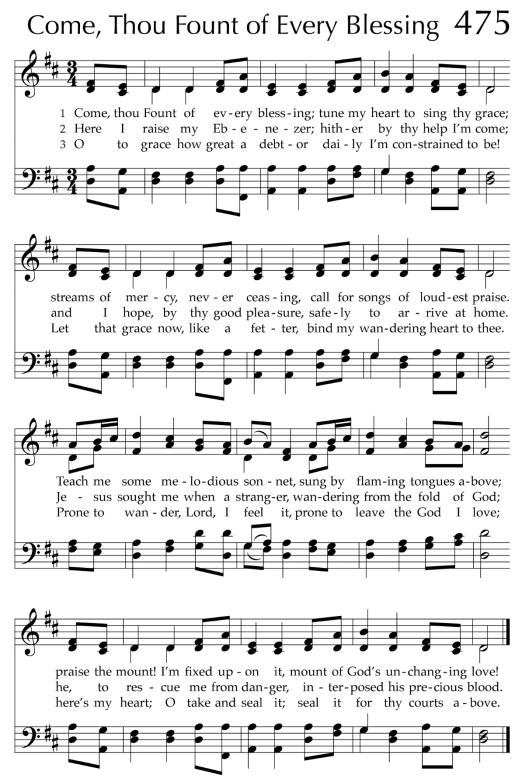
\*Hymn # 649 - Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

\*Charge and Benediction

\*Congregational Response: Hymn # 205 – Live in Charity (x2)

Live in charity and steadfast love. Live in charity; God will dwell with you.

**Postlude** 



Written for Pentecost by a British Baptist pastor, this text is full of biblical terms like "Ebenezer" (1 Samuel 7:12), Hebrew for "a stone of help" set up to give thanks for God's assistance. The tune name honors hymnal compiler Asahel Nettleton, who probably did not compose it.

**THANKSGIVING** 

# Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound



As was his custom, the author wrote this hymn to accompany his sermon on 1 Chronicles 17:16–17, preached on January 1, 1773; he called it "Faith's Review and Expectation." Much of its current popularity comes from this now-familiar tune, an association that began in 1835.

TEXT: Stanzas 1-4, John Newton, 1772; stanza 5, A Collection of Sacred Ballads, 1790; Navaho, Albert Tsosie MUSIC: Columbian Harmony, 1829; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1910, alt.

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