#### Prelude

#### **Welcome and Announcements**

# \*Call to Worship

Leader: Beloved children of God, in supplication and prayer,

with intercessions and with thanksgiving,

People: we come to worship God.

Leader: In hope and in humility,

with joy and with concerns,

**People: we come to worship God.** Leader: In faith and in uncertainty,

with questions and with conviction,

People: let us worship God.

\*Hymn # 756 – O God of Every Nation

## **Call to Confession**

# **Prayer of Confession**

Holy God, we confess that we are too concerned with our own peace. We seek the comfort of silence, and ignore the cries of the oppressed. We are inwardly focused, missing your call to serve the world in justice and love. Forgive us, O God. Equip us to fulfill your will for a world in which all know dignity and all are treated with equity, as your beloved children. Amen.

#### **Assurance of Pardon**

## \*Passing of the Peace

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

People: And also with you.

#### Time with Children

After the Time with Children, we invite children to return to their seats and participate in the service. Activity bags may be found on the welcome table.

#### **Choral Anthem**

# **Prayer of Illumination**

Scripture: Amos 8:4-7

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

**Sermon:** Exploiting the Marginalized



Sunday, September 18th

**Affirmation of Faith:** The Confession of Belhar

We believe that God has revealed God's self

as the one who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people;

that God, in a world full of injustice and enmity,

is in a special way the God of the destitute,

the poor and the wronged;

that God calls the church to follow God in this;

for God brings justice to the oppressed and gives bread to the hungry;

that God supports the downtrodden,

protects the stranger,

helps orphans and widows and blocks the path of the ungodly;

that God wishes to teach the church to do what is good

and to seek the right;

that the church must therefore stand by people in any form of suffering and need,

which implies, among other things,

that the church must witness against and strive against any form of injustice,

so that justice may roll down like waters,

and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream;

that in following Christ

the church must witness against all the powerful and privileged

who selfishly seek their own interests

and thus control and harm others. Amen.

# **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.

# **Invitation to Offering**

## **Offertory**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving** 

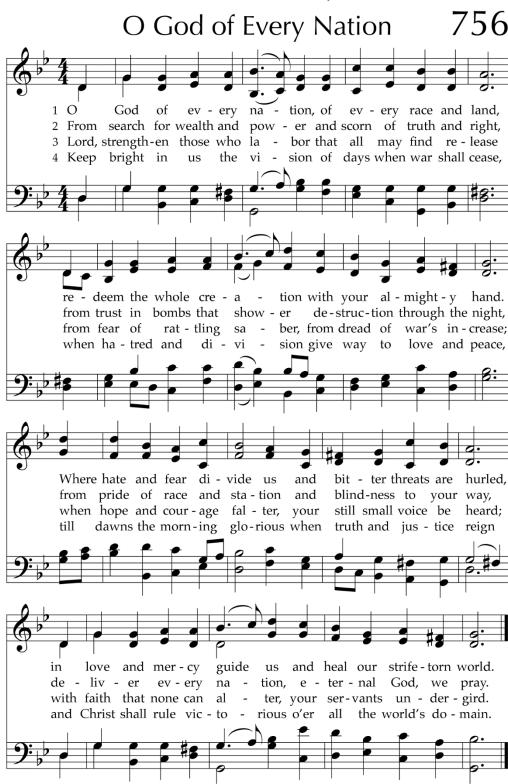
\*Hymn # 749 – Come! Live in the Light!

## \*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**

<sup>\*</sup>Charge and Benediction



If we truly believe that God cares for all people, we cannot limit our prayers and songs for peace to the welfare of our own nation, no matter how much we may love it. This challenging text is set to a stirring Welsh tune, named for a hamlet with a prominent Baptist chapel.

JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION

# Come! Live in the Light!



The thematic and musical center of this hymn on the vocation of all believers is found in the refrain, which is based on the well-known challenge of Micah 6:8, "What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"