

Sunday, September 4<sup>th</sup>

## **Prelude**

### **Welcome and Announcements**



### **\*Call to Worship**

Leader: With endless creativity,

**People: God forms and shapes our lives.**

Leader: Each of us bears the image of our maker.

**People: Each of us is made in love.**

### **\*Hymn # 401 – Here in This Place**

### **Call to Confession**

#### **Prayer of Confession**

**Holy God, like children long indulged, we are quick to presume your pardon, your sanction of the way we live. We turn away from neighbors in need, sharing fragments that remain only after our cravings have been met. Merciful Maker, you created us for better use; remake us now. Where we are distorted re-center and reshape us, bring us low and raise us up. Then fire our hearts until we shine with your glory and find our place in your purpose. 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**

### **Prayer of Illumination**

**Scripture:** Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon:** Formed by God

**Affirmation of Faith:** The Brief Statement of Faith

**We trust in God,**

**whom Jesus called Abba, Father.**

**In sovereign love God created the world good**

**and makes everyone equally in God's image**

**male and female, of every race and people,**

**to live as one community.**

**But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.**

**Ignoring God's commandments,**

**we violate the image of God in others and ourselves,**

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**accept lies as truth,  
exploit neighbor and nature,  
and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.  
We deserve God's condemnation.  
Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.  
In everlasting love,  
the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people  
to bless all families of the earth.  
Hearing their cry,  
God delivered the children of Israel  
from the house of bondage.  
Loving us still,  
God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.  
Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,  
like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,  
God is faithful still. Amen.**

### **Special Music**

### **Invitation to the Lord's Table**

### **The Thanksgiving**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your heart.

**People: We lift them up to the Lord!**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### **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.**

### **The Sharing of the Meal**

### **Prayer After Communion**

**Nourishing God, thank you for inviting us  
to your table where all are welcome,  
and for feeding us with the bread of life  
and quenching our thirst with the cup of blessing.  
As you have filled our lives with love and hope,  
may we be a source of your love and hope  
for others who hunger and thirst  
for good news. Amen.**

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

**\*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**

# Here in This Place

Gather Us In

401



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing; now is the dark-ness  
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys-tery. We are the old who  
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa-ter; here we will take the  
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con-fin-ing, not in some heav-en,



van-ish-ed a-way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings  
 yearn for your face. We have been sung through-out all of his-tory,  
 bread of new birth. Here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,  
 light years a-way: here in this place the new light is shin-ing;



brought here to you in the light of this day.  
 called to be light to the whole hu-man race.  
 call us a-new to be salt for the earth.  
 now is the king-dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for-sak-en; gath-er us in, the  
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty; gath-er us in, the  
 Give us to drink the wine of com-pas-sion; give us to eat the  
 Gath-er us in and hold us for-ev-er; gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a-wak-en;  
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low-ly;  
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash-ion  
 make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo-ples to-geth-er,



we shall a-rise at the sound of our name.  
 give us the cour-age to en-ter the song.  
 lives that are ho-ly and hearts that are true.  
 fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

The "you/your" mentioned in every stanza is never identified, but this 1979 hymn is clearly a corporate prayer to God on behalf of the diverse congregation who have assembled for worship, longing to be transformed and used as God's witnesses and for God's purposes.

THANKSGIVING

# 649 Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

1 A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, that  
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and  
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I  
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his  
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but  
 grace my fears re - lieved. How pre - cious did that  
 have al - read - y come. 'Tis grace has brought me  
 word my hope se - cures. He will my shield and  
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

now am found, was blind, but now I see.  
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!  
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.  
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.  
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

**CHOCTAW**

*Shilombish holitopa ma!  
 Ishmminti pulla cha  
 hatak ilbusha pia ha  
 is pi yukpalashke.*

**CREEK**

*Po ya fek cha he thlat ah tet  
 ah non ah cha pa kas  
 cha fee kee o funnan la kus  
 um e ha ta la yus.*

**NAVAHO**

*Nizhónítgo joobá diits' a'  
 yisdáshúitínigí,  
 lah yóóiiyá, k'ad  
 shénáhoosdzin,  
 doo eesh'íí da nít'ée.*

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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