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WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN “He Lives” by Alfred H. Ackley

I serve a risen Savior; He's in the world today.
I know that He is living, whatever they may say.
I see His hand of mercy, I hear His voice of cheer,
And just the time I need Him He's always near.

Refrain:

He lives! He lives! Christ Jesus lives today!
He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.
He lives! He lives! Salvation to impart!
You ask me how I know He lives? He lives within my heart.

In all the world around me I see His loving care,
And though my heart grows weary I never will despair.
I know that He is leading, thro' all the stormy blast;
The day of His appearing will come at last.

(Refrain)

Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian! Lift up your voice and sing
Eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ, the King!
The Hope of all who seek Him, the Help of all who find,
None other is so loving, so good and kind.

(Refrain)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: God has revealed himself in the flesh of a man and his name is Jesus, the light of the world.

People: *He comes to each generation, in the darkness of their sin, and sheds true light on all who will believe.*

Pastor: Those who receive him become children of God, born into new life by the will of God. Those who receive him become lights in the darkness of a fallen creation.

People: *We behold his glory, full of grace and truth, and offer our adoration, praise, and very lives to him.*

OPENING PRAYER

Heavenly Father, who, in the form of your Son, caused your Word to become flesh—the light of the world: Dwell in our midst with grace and truth. Allow us to behold the glory of your Son, our Savior, who we honor this morning. Help us to allow the Light of the world to shine through us in all we say and do, and make us willing to allow the Light to eliminate any areas of our lives that dwell in darkness. In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

SILENT PRAYER

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & PETITION

THE LORD’S PRAYER

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

The Light of the world came into a world of darkness, where many of his own people did not receive him. We too live in a world of sin, and he comes to us. Forgive us for the areas of our lives in which we continue to dwell in darkness. Forgive us when we, in our disobedience and selfishness, perpetuate darkness in the world. Help us to allow the Light to fill us and dispel the darkness within us, and create in us a willingness to allow the Light to shine through us, making the world a brighter place. We pray through Christ, the Light of the world. Amen.

HYMN OF PREPARATION “Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus” by Helen H. Lemmel

Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
 Look full in His wonderful face,
 And the things of earth will grow strangely dim,
 In the light of His glory and grace.

O soul, are you weary and troubled?
 No light in the darkness you see?
 There's light for a look at the Savior,
 And life more abundant and free!

Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
 Look full in His wonderful face,
 And the things of earth will grow strangely dim,
 In the light of His glory and grace.

SCRIPTURE 1 John 1:5-10

SERMON “In the Light”

PASTORAL PRAYER**OFFERING****PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING****Song of Sending “This Little Light of Mine”**

This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine
This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine
This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

Hide it under a bushel, No! I’m gonna let it shine
Hide it under a bushel, No! I’m gonna let it shine
Hide it under a bushel, No! I’m gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

All around the neighborhood I’m gonna let it shine
All around the neighborhood I’m gonna let it shine
All around the neighborhood I’m gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH