

absorb from one another, forgive us. In times of temptation strengthen us. From trials too great to endure, spare us. From that is evil, free us. For you reign in the glory of the power and for ever. Amen.

### SENDING

- \* Closing Hymn #684 "Faith Begins by Letting Go"
- \* Charge
- \* Benediction
- \* Postlude



### THE GATHERING

Gathering Music ~ *The Gratitude Jazz Band with Jonathan*  
 Last piece "How Firm A Foundation" ~ *Hand Bell*

### Question for Reflection

Later Israelites saw in their history that God brought them through trials, tests, burdens, and pain to a spacious place of life, breath, and salvation. God heard their prayers and opened them to deliverance. Often, we have to look back, too, to see how God has acted in our lives. Where and when have you felt such a spacious place? What story do you tell of the ways that God is blessing you? What story does your faith community tell of the ways in which God is blessing you?

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### Morning Household Prayer

I give thanks for the gift of life and breath that is mine today in Christ. Make me eager to do good and to resist evil, and grant me the wisdom to recognize the difference. Fill me with your assurance in all I say and do that I may share the hope that is within me in gentleness and reverence. Amen.

### Evening Household Prayer

O God, in whom I live and move and have my begin, you hear me when I pray; listen to my prayer; you set my feet on steady ground, you never leave me alone. As I rest in you tonight, sanctify my heart in Christ, and fill me with your strength that I may rise to love and serve you and greet another day. Amen.

Announcements, Welcome/Opening Sentences  
 Prelude and lighting of the Christ Candle  
 \* Call to Worship

Leader: While our spiritual ancestors were living  
 People: ...**how long must we endure this oppression**  
 When they left Egypt and followed Moses in the  
 ...**is this really any better than our old life in Egypt**  
 When we feel the urge to make a change in our  
 ...**how much longer can I go on like this?**  
 When we consider the cost of change, we wonder  
 ...**what is the cost if I stay the same?**

Then the love of the Divine reminds us,  
 "You are my child. You can emerge to renew the world."  
 Amen.

\* Hymn of Praise #38 "How Firm a Foundation"

\* Invitation to Healing

Let us join in Divine love with authenticity, shedding our  
 also keeping us from one another and from God.

\* Prayer of Wholeness

Divine Love, draw close to us even as we seek  
 pray. Heal what we have broken – in ourselves  
 Earth. Nurture what we have neglected and let

as Jesus did, Amen. Please continue in silent prayer

\* Hymn of Petition #544 "Bless the Lord" (2x)

\* Assurance of God's Presence

Friends, believe this Good News: God is One and God is Three, Love constantly flowing in, out, and through; the gift of the Holy Spirit for me and for you. For this we say: **Thanks be to God!**

Since God has loved us, let us also love one another. The Peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you!**

\* Passing of the Peace

\* Hymn #591 "Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!" (Chorus only, 2x)

Sharing our Joys: Where have you seen God at work this past week?

Sung Response: "Thank you God Song" arr. Scott

G C G

"Thank you God for giving us joys!"

C D

Thank you God for giving us joys!

G C G C D7

Thank you God for giving us joys, right where we are!

(Make up others: church, friends, kids, staff, trees, food, pets, etc.)

### TEACHING

A Time for Children and Others Young at Heart

Prayer of Illumination:

*Liturgist:* Stretching to the fullness of new potential, the butterfly begins to sense the calling to new heights. Expansion of wings, however, means sacrifice — it cannot ever go back into the cocoon. Not even if it is so familiar, many began crying to go back. Letting go of the past requires deep trust in the God who has promised to be with us always.

Let us pray: Let your Word unfold new understanding for our hearts and our lives through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen

"The Word of Love" "Thanks be to God"

Anthem: "Sheep May Safely Graze"

Gospel Reading: [John 14:15-21](#)

"The Word of Love" "Thanks be to God"

Message: "All We Need is Love" ~ Rev. Dr. Scott T. C.

Please spend several moments in silence

### RESPONSE TO TEACHING

\* Hymn of Response #44 "Like a Mother Who Has Begotten"

Intercessory Prayers of the People

Holy One, we come to you seeking the wisdom to know what to let go. When we know what is no longer of our strength to make a change. Help us to release the things that are keeping us from moving forward into healing in our moments of loss and doubt, because we know you. May we offer this comfort and grace to all who are suffering.

G We pray this day for...

Invitation to Present Our Offerings

Offertory "Prayer" by Laura Zaerr

\* Doxology Hymn #606

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,

Praise God, all creatures here below.

Praise God, above, ye heavenly host.

Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost!

\* Prayer of Thanksgiving, Dedication, and Alt. Lord's Prayer

The New Zealand Anglican Lord's Prayer

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,

shall be, Father and Mother of us all, Loving God,

hallowings of your name echo through the universe,

followed by the peoples of the world! Your hear-