

GOD OF LOVE, WE OFFER OUR GRATITUDE TO YOU FOR THOSE WOMEN AND MEN WHO HAVE COMFORTED US AND CARRIED US IN THEIR HEARTS IN PRAYER. FOR THE GRACE THAT THEY HAVE GIVEN US DAY AFTER DAY, THANK YOU FOR GUIDING THE WAY FOR LIVES FILLED WITH GRATITUDE.

**FOR WOMEN, YOUNG AND OLD, WHO DO JUSTICE, LOVE KINDNESS AND WALK HUMBLY WITH YOU, O GOD, WE GIVE YOU THANKS AND PRAISE.**

CREATOR GOD, BE PRESENT WITH US AS WE SING AND SERVE, REMEMBER AND CELEBRATE, YOUR DAUGHTERS WHO, WITH YOUR HELP, HAVE LIVED LIVES OF GRATITUDE, REFLECTING YOUR LOVE AND GRACE.

**GIVE US YOUR PEACE, WHICH SURPASSES OUR UNDERSTANDING AND WATCH OVER OUR HEARTS AND OUR MINDS, AS WE REST IN CHRIST JESUS. AMEN.**

**\*HYMN 654**

**IN THE LORD I'LL BE EVER THANKFUL**

**CHARGE & BLESSING**

GO FROM HERE WITH GRATEFUL HEARTS.

**GO WITH LOVE AND COMPASSION.**

LET YOUR GENTLENESS BE KNOWN TO EVERYONE.

**DO NOT WORRY ABOUT ANYTHING, BUT IN EVERYTHING BY PRAYER AND SUPPLICATION WITH THANKSGIVING, LET YOUR REQUESTS BE MADE KNOWN TO GOD.**

AND THE PEACE OF GOD, WHICH SURPASSES ALL UNDERSTANDING, WILL GUARD YOUR HEARTS AND YOUR MINDS IN CHRIST JESUS.

**MAY THE PEACE OF GOD BE WITH YOU ALWAYS.**

**POSTLUDE**

**I SING THE MIGHTY POWER OF GOD**

-ARR. ANNA LAURA PAGE

**PARTICIPATING IN WORSHIP TODAY**

READERS:

EMILY GHORMLEY, LORI CASADY, PAM O'CONNOR, CAROLYN WARNER,  
SUE OLSZEWSKI, DEANNA WATSON, & KEM CLARK-TANNER

USHERS & GREETER:

LORI STOKES, SYDNEY MIDDLETON, SALLY TOLLINGER,  
KATE ANDERSON & CAROL TOWN



# Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart

BY RHASHELL D. HUNTER

**Celebrate the Gifts of Women Sunday  
March 26, 2017**

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE    **WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDEROUS CROSS/THERE IS A REDEEMER**  
-ARR. ANNA LAURA PAGE

### OPENING PRAYER

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

GRATEFUL TO GOD, WE WORSHIP. WE WORSHIP THE GOD OF GRACE.

**IN GOD, WE ARE EVER THANKFUL; IN GOD WE WILL REJOICE!**

LOOK TO GOD. DO NOT BE AFRAID.

**LIFT UP YOUR VOICES. GOD IS NEAR. LIFT UP YOUR VOICES. GOD IS NEAR.**

GRATEFUL TO GOD, WE WORSHIP.

**WE WORSHIP THE GIFTS OF GOD THIS DAY.**

#### \*HYMN 647

**GIVE THANKS**

### CALL TO CONFESSION

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION IN UNISON

**O GOD, WE CONFESS THAT WE HAVE NOT ALWAYS SPOKEN UP FOR JUSTICE. WE HAVE NOT STOOD WITH THE OPPRESSED. WE HAVE WALKED THE OTHER WAY, SOMETIMES IMMOBILIZED BY FEAR AND SOMETIMES NOT KNOWING WHAT ELSE TO DO. REKINDLE THE GIFT OF GOD WITHIN US AND REMIND US OF OUR FAITH, A FAITH THAT FIRST LIVED IN OUR GRANDMOTHERS AND OUR MOTHERS, IN OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS AND OUR CHOIR DIRECTORS, IN OUR ELDERS AND OUR MINISTERS. GOD OF GRACE, FORGIVE US AND TRANSFORM US INTO WHOM YOU WOULD HAVE US TO BE, SO THAT WE DELIGHT IN YOUR WILL AND WALK IN YOUR WAY.**

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

GOD ACTS WITH JUSTICE AND MERCY. IN EVERLASTING LOVE, GOD REDEEMS US AND SETS US FREE.

**GOD FORGIVES US, FREES US AND GIVES US PEACE. TO GOD, WE ARE EVER THANKFUL.**

THE PEACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST BE WITH YOU ALL.

**AND ALSO WITH YOU.**

*FEEL FREE TO MOVE AROUND THE SANCTUARY AS YOU GREET ONE ANOTHER*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### \*HYMN 661

**WHY SHOULD I FEEL DISCOURAGED**

#### CHOIR ANTHEM

JILL GERTJE—FLUTE

**JESU, JESU, FILL US WITH YOUR LOVE**

-ARR. BY DANIELLE BROWN

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**MERCIFUL GOD, YOUR WORD IS THE WISDOM WE SEEK. HELP US SO TO HEAR THAT WE MAY TRULY UNDERSTAND ; THAT UNDERSTANDING, WE MAY BELIEVE, AND BELIEVING, WE MAY FOLLOW IN ALL FAITHFULNESS AND OBE-DIENCE, SEEKING YOUR HONOR AND GLORY IN ALL WE DO. AMEN.**

#### SCRIPTURE READINGS

**PSALM 107:1-9 & MATTHEW 6:25-33**

#### THE MESSAGE

**CARLA MIDDLETON, EVELYN CATES & DENISE SMITHERS**

#### OFFERING/OFFERTORY

NANCY THOMAS—FLUTE

**ARIO SO**

-J S BACH

#### \*DOXOLOGY 609

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.**

#### LITANY FOR WOMEN WITH GRATEFUL HEARTS

GOD OF GRACE, THANK YOU FOR TRANQUIL, REFLECTIVE MOMENTS WHEN WE ARE ABLE TO RECOGNIZE YOU IN THE WORLD. FOR ALL YOUR BEAUTY AND YOUR WONDER, WE GIVE YOU THANKS.

**FOR THE BREATH IN OUR BODIES, FOR OUR HEARTS AND SOULS, FOR OUR CONNECTIONS WITH ONE ANOTHER, WE GIVE YOU THANKS AND PRAISE.**

GOD OF RECONCILIATION, BE PRESENT WITH US WHEN CONFLICTS ARISE. REMIND US THAT WE HAVE A HIGHER CALLING: TO FORGIVE THOSE WHO WRONG US, TO PRAY FOR THOSE WHO PERSECUTE US, AND TO SEEK PEACE IN THE MIDST OF STRIFE.

**FOR WOMEN WITH GRATEFUL HEARTS, WHO HAVE SHARED THEIR FAITH WITH US AND RESPONDED IN KINDNESS AND SERVICE, WE GIVE YOU THANKS AND PRAISE.**