

INVITATION AND GATHERING

WELCOME

CENTERING WORDS

Who is my mother and father? Who are my sisters and brothers?  
Everyone joined in the bond of God's love and grace are our mothers  
and fathers, everyone united in the spirit of Christ are our sisters and  
brothers. We are all part of the family of God.

**\*SCRIPTURE READING ..... 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1**

**\* OPENING HYMN: #719..... My Lord, What a Morning**

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We make our Christian faith more complex than it is.

**People: If we are to be the church, then we must stand  
together as one family.**

Leader: Division divides and weakens us.

**People: Unity multiplies our might.**

Leader: If we are to be one in the Spirit, then the spirit of the heart  
must join with the Holy Spirit.

**People: Come, let us worship as God's spirited, Spirit-filled  
people.**

**\* Let us pray (Congregation):**

**We are your church, O Holy Spirit. We would be single-hearted  
in following the principles you have set before us. We would be  
single-minded in shaping and realizing our plans for this church.  
For the sake of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**\* LET’S WORSHIP THE LORD WITH HYMNS:**

**# 354..... I Surrender All**

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Congregation)**

**Great God, we stand before you filled with contradictions, with  
"would be's" contrasted with reality, with expected richness of  
relationship sullied by human faults. Help us to keep reaching  
toward integrity of spirit and toward strength in unity with a  
minimum of compromising attitude. Amen.**

**\* LET’S WORSHIP THE LORD WITH HYMNS:**

**# 357.....Just as I Am, Without One Plea**

INTRODUCTION TO THE WORD

We have faith, and so we speak.  
We have faith, and so we act.  
Speak to us now, O God,  
that our faith may be sure,  
and our speech and our actions  
may flow from your word.

**\*SCRIPTURE READING: ..... Mark 3:31-35**

Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

THE WORD MADE FLESH: **“Being in the family”**

**\* RESPONSE TO THE WORD: # 445 ..Happy the Home When God Is There**

**CONGREGATION IN PRAYER: Joys and Concerns**

**\* PRAYER HYMN: # 2200 ..... O Lord, Hear My Prayer**

HOLY COMMUNION

**\* CLOSING HYMN: # 310..... He Lives**

**\* DISMISSAL BLESSING**

1<sup>st</sup> Scripture Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1 (NKJV)

<sup>13</sup> And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, “I believed and therefore I spoke,” we also believe and therefore speak, <sup>14</sup> knowing that He who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up with Jesus, and will present *us* with you. <sup>15</sup> For all things *are* for your sakes, that grace, having spread through the many, may cause thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God.

<sup>16</sup> Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward *man* is being renewed day by day. <sup>17</sup> For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding *and* eternal weight of glory, <sup>18</sup> while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen *are* temporary, but the things which are not seen *are* eternal.

<sup>5</sup> For we know that if our earthly [a]house, *this* tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

2<sup>nd</sup> Scripture Reading: Mark 3:31-35 (NKJV)

<sup>31</sup> Then His brothers and His mother came, and standing outside they sent to Him, calling Him. <sup>32</sup> And a multitude was sitting around Him; and they said to Him, “Look, Your mother and Your brothers [a]are outside seeking You.”

<sup>33</sup> But He answered them, saying, “Who is My mother, or My brothers?” <sup>34</sup> And He looked around in a circle at those who sat about Him, and said, “Here are My mother and My brothers! <sup>35</sup> For whoever does the will of God is My brother and My sister and mother.”

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*Whoever does the  
will of God is my  
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and mother.*

Mark 3:35, NRSV

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