

Welcome / Announcements / Land Acknowledgement

□ *Come, Holy Spirit (Gaither)*

Call to Worship

The Lord has been our dwelling place in all generations.

**From everlasting-to-everlasting God is God, and so we come to worship.**

God satisfies us every morning with steadfast love.

**Let us rejoice and be glad all our days.**

Tell of God's glorious power and praise God's holy name.

**We will offer God the work of our hands and praise from the depths of our hearts.**

□ *A mighty fortress is our God*

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† Gathering Prayer / Disciples Prayer (Rev. M Jade Kaiser, *enfleshed*) / Words of Hope

We pray together a disciple's prayer... ***Mother of us all, who dwells within and beyond, sacred is your name. May your holy vision for collective flourishing come to fruition among us. May your dreams of justice, love, compassion, and connection be enfleshed on earth. Provide us today with what we need to be nourished in body, soul, and heart. Forgive us for the harm we cause as we seek to forgive those who have harmed us. Lead us away from everything that destroys and liberate us from the hands of evil. For you are the ultimate source of hope. Your power-with exceeds all power-over. Your presence incites eternal wonder. All praise to you, our comfort and strength. Amen***

A Word to Ponder... reformed and reforming

□ *Live in charity/Ubi caritas (repeat several times) 501*

† Prayer for Understanding

**Holy God, you have called us to be messages of faith, hope and love for others. Open our hearts and minds to be more aware of how our lives can become strong and faithful witnesses to your good news. Illumine us, we pray in Jesus' name. Amen**

## Scripture

### **Leviticus 19: 1-2, 15-18** OT 106

The LORD spoke to Moses, saying: *Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them: You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy.*

You shall not render an unjust judgment; you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbor.

You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not profit by the blood of your neighbor: I am the LORD.

You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin; you shall reprove your neighbor, or you will incur guilt yourself. You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD.

### **1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8** NT 203

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts.

As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

### **Matthew 22: 34-46** NT 25

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. *“Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?”*

He said to him, *“‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”*

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: *“What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?”*

They said to him, *“The son of David.”*

He said to them, “How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying, ‘The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet”’? If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?”

No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

### Message

□ *More love to thee* **707**

### Offering and Prayer

□ *Praise God from whom all blessings flow* **306**

**Generous God, you are both devoted and abundant as you embrace each new generation. Bless our gifts and make them fruitful beyond our imagining. Keep us faithful in this generation so that the inheritance we have received in Christ will continue in generations to come. Amen**

† Pastoral Prayers (adapted from *Church of Scotland weekly resources*)

□ *I'll love the Lord* **573**

### Blessing

□ *Jump with joy* **406**