**Chimes**

**Greeting**

**L**: Thanks to God for all the mercies God shows to us.  
**P: Let us enter God’s house with hearts filled with joy.**

**Prelude**

**Welcome & Sharing the Life of the Church**

* Announcements
* Walk to Bethlehem
* Where Love Lives
* Gods Gifts
* Advent & Christmas

**\*Invitation to Worship**

L: The Lord continually watches all of God’s own sheep.

**P: They are led to green pastures and brought before stilled waters.**

L: Praise God for God’s tender and loving care of us.

**P: Thanks to God for all the mercies God shows to us.**

L: Let us enter God’s house with hearts filled with joy.

**P: O Lord, open our spirits to respond to your words of compassion. AMEN.**

**\*Opening Hymn**. All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name UMH #154

Verses 1,2,4,6

**\*Opening Prayer**

God of justice and peace, bring your dazzling light into our hearts and spirits that we might see the glorious opportunities we have to serve you. Help us to see that following your mandate to feed the hungry, bring nourishment to those who thirst, offer clothing to those in need, visit the sick and those who are imprisoned, welcome the stranger – any activity of service as an act of great privilege and joy. We praise you for the light of your son, Jesus Christ, who boldly bids us care for each other and become those who would bring good news of peace for all. AMEN.

**Children’s Moments**

**Psalm Reading** Psalm 100

1Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

2Worship the Lord with gladness;

come into his presence with singing.

3Know that the Lord is God.

It is he that made us, and we are his;

we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

4Enter his gates with thanksgiving,

and his courts with praise.

Give thanks to him, bless his name.

5For the Lord is good;

his steadfast love endures forever,

and his faithfulness to all generations.

**Special Music**

**Scripture**  Ephesians 1:15-23

15I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason 16I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. 17I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, 18so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, 19and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. 20God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, 21far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. 22And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, 23which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

**Response:**

L: The word of God for the people of God.

**P: Thanks be to God!**

**Message** Thankful! Just Thankful!

**Responsive Litany**

One: O God of promises, you remind us again and again that you are present with your people. When our hearts are broken, **All: You are here.**  
One: When we wait in worry to hear about a diagnosis, **All: You are here.**  
One: When we lose the ones we love, **All: You are here.**  
One: Where anyone is hungry or thirsty, **All: You are here.**  
One: When we feel like strangers, **All: You are here.**  
One: Where anyone is sick or in need of care and company, **All: You are here.**  
One: When people are in prison, **All: You are here.**  
One: When anyone needs clothing, **All: You are here.**  
One: Loving God, You are here with us when we suffer. Empower us to be with others as they suffer, our neighbors both near and far. You are here, God, in the midst of suffering—and we want to be where you are. **All: Amen.**

**\*Response** Give Thanks TFWS #2036

**Prayer Time**

* *Sharing Joys and Concerns*
* *Centering Song Make me a Servant TFWS #2176*
* *Pastoral Prayer*
* *Lord’s Prayer:* ***Our Father, which 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.***

**Offering**

* *Offertory Sentence:* *As we have entered this church with thanksgiving on our hearts, let us remember that we have the opportunity to joyfully share from the bounty which God has provided. In the love and name of Christ, let us receive our morning offering*
* *Offertory*
* *Doxology*
* *Offertory Prayer: Good Shepherd, who leads and guides us through all the trials and tribulations of our lives, we bring these gifts to celebrate the ministries of justice and hope in which our church is involved. Be with us and cause us to grow in our faith and our service. AMEN.*

**\*Closing Hymn** Crown Him With Many Crowns UMH #327

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude**