

April 25, 2021

"FROM ABEL TO MOSES:
FINDING FAITH THROUGH
EACH OTHER"

Hebrews 10:23-25, 11:1-4, 11:39-12:2



"A Prelude on Land of Rest"
American folk melody, arr. R. Shoup

We Gather In Christ

OPENING PRAYER

God of grace, silence all voices within our minds but your own. Help us to seek and be able to follow your will. May our prayers be joined with those of our sisters and brothers in the faith, that together we may glorify your name and enjoy your fellowship forever. In Jesus' name, Amen.

WELCOME

PASSING OF THE PEACE

SINGING OUR FAITH TOGETHER

"I Come with Joy"
words by Brian Wren (1970)

We Recognize our Need to Grow Closer to God

CONFESSING OUR SIN

Almighty God, we confess how hard it is to be your people. You have called us to be the church, to continue the mission of Jesus Christ to a lonely and confused world. Yet we acknowledge we are more apathetic than active, isolated than involved, callous than compassionate, obstinate than obedient, legalistic than loving.

Gracious Lord, have mercy upon us and forgive our sins. Remove the obstacles preventing us from being your representatives to a broken world. Awaken our hearts to the promised gift of your Spirit. This we pray in Jesus' powerful name. **Amen.**

*Open my ears, Lord, help me to hear your voice.
Open my ears, Lord, help me to hear.*

"Christian community is the place where we keep the flame of hope alive among us and take it seriously so that it can grow and become stronger in us."
—Henri Nouwen

RECEIVING GRACE

If you repent and believe in God's redeeming mercy, your sins are forgiven. Trust in God's promises and begin anew your life with God and all people in the name of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

We Hear the Word

TIME OF DISCOVERY

SINGING OUR FAITH

"For the Beauty of the Earth"
words by Folliott S. Pierpont (1864)

MESSAGE

"From Abel to Moses: Finding Faith through Each Other" —Dr. Craig Wansink
Hebrews 10:23-25, 11:1-4, 11:39-12:2

Open our eyes, Lord, help us to see your face.
Open our eyes, Lord, help us to see.

We Respond in Humility

THE MISSION AND MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

SINGING OUR FAITH TOGETHER *"The Servant Song"*
words by Richard Gillard

*BENEDICTION

Recognize that you are called by God, and you are not alone. Be strengthened by others, by those around you, by those who—though very different from you—recognize that there is a need for you to serve in this world.

Go into the world, blessed by the guidance of God, the humility of Jesus Christ, and the power of the holy spirit. **Amen.**

Open our hearts, Lord, help us to love like you.
Open our hearts, Lord, help us to love.

"Community is love you can see and smell and touch... Community is the invitation to be a mess when you need to be. Community is the joyful embrace of your complicated story. Community is the e-mail or phone call or text message that says, 'I'm thinking about you, even when you are away.' And community is the grace-filled invitation to always return to a place, no matter how wrecked you might be. And if community is grace-with-a-heartbeat... the biggest barrier to community will be you. Because in order to receive the grace of authentic community, we will have to believe we are worthy of receiving it." —Kelly Flanagan

"God's ultimate purpose for humanity is to call together a community whose life will reflect his own."
—Jeremy Begbie