

Welcome, All Worshipers

Whoever you are, and wherever you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here.

"We know nothing at all. All our knowledge is but the knowledge of schoolchildren.
The real nature of things we shall never know, never." ~*Albert Einstein*

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(\* indicates when those who are able will stand.)  
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Prelude

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BORIS GERBER, LAY READER

***OPENING HYMN: #8 PRAISE TO THE LIVING GOD** ALL VERSES

*Call to Worship (Psalm 8):

Leader: We stand in AWE of God's creation. The recently launched James Webb telescope fills us with awe and wonder. It looks 13 billion years in the past, and we can feel small and insignificant. Bill Nelson, NASA's administrator has said that "If you held a grain of sand at arm's length, that would represent the speck of universe you see in this image. Because it takes time for light to travel, some of the light in the new image is more than 13 billion years old. That's less than 1 billion years after the Big Bang." As we worship this morning, let the words of the psalmist bring us to humble praise:

Psalm 8:3-6

When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established;

What are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them?

Yet you have made them a little lower than God, and crowned them with glory and honor.

You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet.

Who are we, Holy Creator, that you draw near when we call?

All: Your faithful people call your name.

Leader: Who are we, Loving God, that you care for us?

All: Your faithful people call your name.

Leader: Who are we, Holy One, that you crown us with honor?

All: Your faithful people call your name.

Leader: Who are we, O God, that you make us stewards of the earth?

All: Your faithful people call your name.

Leader: Who are we, O God, to deserve your faith and trust?

All: Your faithful people call your name.

*Opening Prayer:

Leader: Holy One, as near as the breath of our lives and as distant as the farthest star, we gather to worship you this morning.

All: From the time you fashioned the heavens and the earth from a formless void, O God, your creative energy has done marvelous works, all around us. May your creative Spirit be at work in our hearts and minds today as we worship you and, always, as we strive to live in obedience to your will. Amen.

*The Gloria Patri (sung)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen

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SCRIPTURE: PSALM 8, PHILIPPIANS 2:1-11

CHILDREN'S SERMON

***HYMN: #555 HERE, SAVIOR, IN THIS QUIET SPACE** ALL VERSES

SERMON: BENEATH THE SURFACE

REV. ROBERT CASE

**SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS, PASTORAL PRAYER
THE LORD'S PRAYER**

***CLOSING HYMN: #556 GOD, WHO STRETCHED THE SPANGLED HEAVENS** ALL VERSES

*BENEDICTION

All: Life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who make the journey with us. So be swift to love, and make haste to be kind.

Minister: And the blessing God who made us, who loves us, and who travels with us, be with you now and forever. Amen.

***UNISON RESPONSE: And God will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of God's hand. Amen.**

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Postlude

Psalm 8

¹O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens.

²Out of the mouths of babes and infants you have founded a bulwark because of your foes, to silence the enemy and the avenger.

³When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established;

⁴what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them?

⁵Yet you have made them a little lower than God, and crowned them with glory and honor.

⁶You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet,

⁷all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field,

⁸the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

⁹O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Philippians 2:1-11

2If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, ²make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. ⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, ⁷but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, ⁸he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

