

PASTORAL WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY:

❖ There are two ways of spreading the light, the candle or the mirror that reflects it.
Edith Wharton

❖ Turn your face to the sun and the shadows fall behind you. - Maori Proverb

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: Jesus said, "I am the light of the world."

People: We are gathered in your house, O God, to celebrate the light.

Leader: Jesus said, "Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the

light of life."

People: We praise you, Lord Jesus, for illuminating our path and helping us master our fear of the dark, even of the dark tunnel of death.

Leader: Jesus said, "You are the light of the world... let your light shine before others,

so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in

heaven."

People: Spirit of God, empower our witness to the Light, in our worship and in our whole being, as your people claimed by the Light. Amen.

PRAISE SONG: You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore - verses 1, 3 & 4 (music at end of bulletin)

OUR CONFESSION:

All: Radiant God, Source of Light, as you come to us in a penetrating brightness, You catch us off guard and expose our weaknesses. We choose the limelight while you call us to explore the shadows and brighten the darkness. We seek the spectacular while you bind up the broken in countless acts of mercy. We seek to stay on the mountain or in the comfortable pew while you walk the valleys of need.

God of faith, God of hope, God of love, grant us this day a fresh vision of your presence in this world. Help us to see all the places

you are at work. And having seen, O Lord, send us out into the world to share in that work with you. Meet with us today and guide our minds and our feet along the path of your choosing. Amen.

Leader: The light of Jesus' love sets us free and guides us into new possibilities; let us then live in the light as God's children, following our Lord in joy and hope.

CONFESSION RESPONSE: Claimed, Called Sent (music at end of bulletin)

THE GOSPEL: Luke 4:14-21

¹⁴⁻¹⁵ Jesus returned to Galilee powerful in the Spirit. News that he was back spread through the countryside. He taught in their meeting places to everyone's acclaim and pleasure.

¹⁶⁻²¹ He came to Nazareth where he had been raised. As he always did on the Sabbath, he went to the meeting place. When he stood up to read, he was handed the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. Unrolling the scroll, he found the place where it was written,

God's Spirit is on me;

he's chosen me to preach the Message of good news to the poor,

Sent me to announce pardon to prisoners and

recovery of sight to the blind,

To set the burdened and battered free,

to announce, "This is God's time to shine!"

He rolled up the scroll, handed it back to the assistant, and sat down. Every eye in the place was on him, intent. Then he started in, "You've just heard Scripture make history. It came true just now in this place."

MESSAGE: Pastor Cristy School

Reflection #1

Reflection Response #1: With Kindness, verse #1 (music at end of bulletin)

Reflection #2

Reflection Response #2: With Kindness, verse #2 (music at end of bulletin)

Reflection #3

Reflection Response #3: With Kindness, verse #3 (music at end of bulletin)

THE PRAYERS

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours now and forever. Amen.

THE SENDING OUT:

Leader: Almighty God, provide light for us in times of darkness, joy in times of sorrow and peace when life seems chaotic. Most of all, stay by us as we encounter the challenges of the world and try to continue Your work with our hands. In our Savior's name.

All: Amen.

SENDING SONG: The Lord Now Sends Us Forth (music at end of bulletin)

THE DISMISSAL:

Leader: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.



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