WORSHIP

GATHERING

PRELUDE

“Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring”
Linda Dover, piano
by J.S. Bach
arr. Jim Lucas

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kathy Bures

*CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: How shall we worship our God?
ALL: We have heard what the Lord requires of us.
ONE: Leave empty talk and pride behind.
ALL: We must walk the walk.
ONE: Prepare to step out in faith, even into troubled waters.
ALL: Only God knows where we might need to go.
ONE: Don’t be afraid.
ALL: Jesus will guide our steps along the way.
ONE: Teaching us to walk humbly and to love boldly.
ALL: To serve God with body, soul, mind, and strength.
ONE: In humility and courage,
ALL: We will follow where the Spirit leads.

*HYMN 39, Stanzas 1 & 3

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

FAITHFULNESS
Great Is Thy Faithfulness

1 *Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
2 Summer and winter, and spring-time and harvest,
3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,

There is no shadow of turning with thee.
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,

Thou changest not; thy compassions they fail not.
Join with all nature in manifold witness
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow:

As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.
To thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

*Or “Great is thy faithfulness, O God, Creator.”

Written as a meditation on Lamentations 3:22–23, this text is one of the few hymns among the 1200 poems by this Methodist writer and pastor that has gained much currency. The tune that appears here was composed especially for these words, and the pairing has proved enduring.
Refrain

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
오 신 실 하신 주 오 신 실 하신 주

Morning by morning, new mercies I see.
날 마 다 자 비 를 베풋 시 며

All I have needed thy hand hath provided.
일 용 할 모 든 것 내 리 주 시 니

Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!
오 신 실 하신 주 나 의 구 주
PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord, the eyes of all look to you in hope and you give them what they need. You open your hand and satisfy the hunger and thirst of every living thing. May the time we spend together in your presence nourish our hearts and minds; may it strengthen our relationship with you; and renew our commitment to live in this world as your faithful disciples. For you alone are God, the Source and Sustainer of life. In Jesus’ name we pray; Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S LOVE

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: May the peace of Christ be with you.
All: And also with you and all others!

Equipping

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Micah 6:1–8 (NRSV) Kathy Bures

Hear what the Lord says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the Lord, and you enduring foundations of the earth; for the Lord has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel. “O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery; and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the Lord.”

“With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?” He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Holy Wisdom, Holy Words

Thanks be to God!
SUNG SCRIPTURE

“Offertory”
Chancel Quartet
Music by John Ness Beck
Based on Micah 6:6–8

SERMON (video)

“From Religiosity to Righteousness”
Rev. Gregory Bentley
Co-Moderator of the 225th General Assembly

A CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

OFFERING OF GIFTS AND MUSIC

“Meditation on ‘God Is So Good’”
Linda Dover, piano
arr. Jim Lucas

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Sending

*HYMN 353

“My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”
SOLID ROCK

Stanza 1 All
Verse 2 High Voices/Refrain All
Verse 3 Low Voices/Refrain All
Stanza 4 All
My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less 353

1 My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness; I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but changing grace; in every high and stormy gale, my whelming flood; when all around my soul gives way, he him be found, dressed in his righteousness alone, fault-

Refrain

wholly lean on Jesus' name. anchor holds within the veil. On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; all less to stand before the throne.

other ground is sinking sand; all other ground is sinking sand.

This hymn develops the imagery of Jesus' remark (Matthew 7:24–27/Luke 6:47–49) that those who believe in him and act on that belief are like someone who builds a house on a rock. The text is set to a tune created for it by a prolific 19th-century American composer and editor.

TEXT: Edward Austen, c. 1834, alt.
MUSIC: William Batchelder Bradbury, 1864, alt.

SOLID ROCK
LM with refrain
*CHARGE & BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”
arr. J. Wayne Kerr
Music from STRALSUND GESANBUCH (1665)
Linda Dover, organ

GOD’S PEACE TO YOU

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