GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS *(Pastor Rob)*

CALL TO WORSHIP   "Oh, Come, Let Us Sing to the Lord"   *Psalm 95/John Tirro*

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS *(Pastor Rob)*

> L: Merciful God, it isn't easy for us to follow the commandments of loving.
>
> **C: Jesus said the greatest commandment is to love God and to love our neighbors. But we have allowed misunderstanding, fear, hatred, and prejudice to cloud our spirits, turning them away from those who need our love**.
>
> L: We place a test before you, asking that you prove your love to us, or we threaten not to believe in you.
>
> **C: Please forgive us for this foolishness and stubbornness. Give us the courage to be people who will care for others. Let us dedicate our lives in your service, always aware of your awesome love for us. This we ask in Jesus' Name. AMEN.**
>
> L**:** Though our hearts were hardened to the needs of others, God has touched them with compassionate care, healing our wounds and giving courage and strength to our souls. Rejoice, and be assured that God's love is poured out for you! AMEN.

SONG OF PRAISE   "Chain Breaker"   *J. Smith, M. Fieldes, Z. Williams/*
                                                                                                           D. Galbraith, D Loers

PRAYER OF THE DAY *(Assistant)*

> L: O God, overflowing with mercy and compassion, you lead back to yourself all those who go astray. Preserve your people in your loving care, that we may reject whatever is contrary to you and may follow all things that sustain our life in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
>
> **C: Amen.**

WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING *(Adam Roberts)*   Acts 8:26-39

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: 'Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.' The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?' He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing.

> L: The Word of the Lord.
>
> **C: Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION   **ELW #173**

THE HOLY GOSPEL   Luke 15:1-7

Now all the tax-collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, 'This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he told them this parable: 'Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, "Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost." Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who need no repentance.

  L: The Gospel of the Lord.
  C: Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON   Pastor Rob Norris-Weber

SONG OF THE DAY   "Mighty to Save"   *Ben Fielding & Reuben Morgan/*
                                  Dan Galbraith

THE APOSTLES' CREED *(Assistant)*
  C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION *(Assistant)*
  L: Called together as brothers and sisters in Christ, let us pray for the church, our community, and our world...

  L: God of grace,
  C: Hear our prayer.

  L: All these things, and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your care through Christ our Lord.
  C: Amen.

OFFERTORY

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(Assistant)*
  C: Our Father, who 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; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

SENDING

GOOD NEIGHBOR MISSION INVITE

BENEDICTION *(Pastor Rob)*

  L: Go out into the world in peace; Love the lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind; and love your neighbor as yourself. Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
  C: Amen.

SENDING SONG   "The Lord Now Sends Us Forth"   **ELW #538**

DISMISSAL *(Assistant)*
  L: Go in peace. Share the Good News.
  C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE