

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

## Sunday, September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022



### PRELUDE

Aaron Wolz

### WELCOME AND COMMUNITY SHARING

Rev. Kathleen Henrion

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist

We gather in the presence of God:  
**who knows us when we wake up  
and when we go to sleep,  
and in all the moments in between.**

We gather in the house of God:  
**who has created a family for us,  
here as well as in the Bahamas,  
in Africa, and in Nashville.**

We gather to be the people of God:  
**who appeals to us to follow  
in love, in faith, in service.**

### PRAISE SONG

“All Creatures of Our God and King” Praise Team

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Liturgist

Eternal God our Potter:  
you come to us  
before we come to you.

You send your Heart,  
Jesus Christ, to us  
before our hearts

are turned to you.

You send your Spirit to us,  
when our spirits  
wander far from you.

You set a Table for us,  
when our souls are hungry,  
when our hearts are empty.

God in Community, Holy in One,  
hear us as we pray  
as Jesus has taught us, saying,  
(*The Lord's Prayer*)

## PRAISE SONG

"The Potter's Hand"

Praise Team

## CALL TO RECONCILIATION

Liturgist

Our sins are not to be hidden from God. Rather, we bring them into the Light and lay them on the Table, trusting in the One who shaped us for goodness and will transform our brokenness into wholeness. Please join me as we pray, saying,

## UNISON PRAYER OF FORGIVENESS

**Searching God, we are so attached to our possessions, we have trouble sharing them. We are so connected to our pleasures that we cannot feel the pain of those around us. We are so stuck on ourselves; we cannot sense our souls slipping away into the shadows.**

**Most merciful God: loosen us from the grip of the world, so we may feel your healing touch. Sever us from our sin, so your Spirit might bind us to you. Reshape us, redeem us, renew us, so we may take up our crosses and follow our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.**

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rev. Kathleen Henrion

The God who calls us is the God who created us; the God who formed us is the God who forgives us. This is the Good News - we are God's new creation.

**In the name of Jesus Christ, we are reshaped, renewed, forgiven. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

## RESPONSE

"Gloria Patria"

## PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Rev. Kathleen Henrion

## HYMN

#371: "Have Thine Own Way, Lord"

## SCRIPTURE READING

Psalms 139:1-6, 13-18 (NRSVue)

Liturgist

***To the leader. Of David. A Psalm.***

- <sup>1</sup> O LORD, you have searched me and known me.  
<sup>2</sup> You know when I sit down and when I rise up;  
you discern my thoughts from far away.  
<sup>3</sup> You search out my path and my lying down  
and are acquainted with all my ways.  
<sup>4</sup> Even before a word is on my tongue,  
O LORD, you know it completely.  
<sup>5</sup> You hem me in, behind and before,  
and lay your hand upon me.  
<sup>6</sup> Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;  
it is so high that I cannot attain it.  
<sup>13</sup> For it was you who formed my inward parts;  
you knit me together in my mother's womb.  
<sup>14</sup> I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.  
Wonderful are your works;  
that I know very well.  
<sup>15</sup> My frame was not hidden from you,  
when I was being made in secret,  
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.  
<sup>16</sup> Your eyes beheld my unformed substance.

In your book were written  
all the days that were formed for me,  
when none of them as yet existed.<sup>[b]</sup>  
**17** How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God!  
How vast is the sum of them!  
**18** I try to count them—they are more than the sand;  
I come to the end<sup>[c]</sup>—I am still with you.

## SERMON

“Knit Together”

Rev. Kathleen Henrion

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Kathleen Henrion

## OFFERING

**Some bear crosses hollowed out by hunger, some carry crosses called injustice. Sometimes our abundance is a cross which we struggle to bear. But as we learn to follow you, as we seek to be as generous as you, we discover that we can gift others with hope, with grace, and with peace. Receive our offerings this day, so they might bless your children in every way imaginable. This we pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

## RESPONSE

“Doxology”

## HOLY COMMUNION

**Hymn of Preparation**      “Change My Heart, O God”

### Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Potter of life be with you.

**And also with you.**

People of God, lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the One who reshapes them into grace.**

People of God, give thanks to the Lord our God.

**We praise the One who has shaped us for love and service.**

With joy we praise you,  
Creating God.  
You stooped down and took the clay  
lying on earth's floor,  
shaping us in your image.  
But we wondered  
what it would be like  
to follow our own paths  
and detached ourselves from your side.  
We counted the cost  
of being your children,  
and found it to be too much for us.  
We pondered your words  
and found them useless for our lives.  
But you did not take your hands from us,  
but continue to recreate us,  
to reshape us, to redeem us.

Giver of breath, shaper of words,  
all the living find voice to praise you,  
as we celebrate with the people  
of every time and place,  
singing to your glory:

**Holy, holy, holy are you, God who shapes us  
with hands of grace and hope.  
Your wonder works of creation praise your name.  
Hosanna in the highest!**

**Blessed is the One who comes,  
appealing to us on the basis of love.  
Hosanna in the highest!**

Holy are you, Redeeming God,  
and blessed is Jesus Christ,  
our Lord and Savior.  
Traveling with us,  
he points out the paths  
we are to walk.  
When he could command  
us to do whatever he wants,  
he appeals to us

to follow his example.  
Whatever wrong we have done,  
whatever good we have failed to do,  
Christ charges them to his account,  
that we might be counted  
as your beloved children.

So, as we come to the Table of grace and hope,  
we remember that mystery we call faith:

**Christ died, having counted the cost.**  
**Christ was raised, the foundation of resurrection being set in place.**  
**Christ will come, refreshing our hearts for all eternity.**

Spirit of the Living God,  
renew us with this bread and this cup  
which have been set aside for sacred us,  
even as you refresh our hearts.  
Fill us with all the goodness of the kingdom,  
that we may do good for Christ  
as we serve others:  
in the ways in which we treat our families;  
in our willingness to draw  
the outcast to our side;  
in our efforts to be your healing hands  
to the sick and grieving.

Then, here at the Table and beyond;  
here in this moment, and through eternity:  
remind us that we are always with you,  
God of all places and times,  
Christ of those who suffer,  
Spirit of justice and hope:  
God in Community, Holy in One. Amen.

## The Lord's Supper

**CLOSING SONG**

"Trees of the Field"

Praise Team

**BENEDICTION**

Rev. Kathleen Henrion

It is God who has formed us as a community of faith.

**Now, we will go to find and serve our sisters and brothers.**

It is Jesus who has knit us together as partners in grace.

**Now, we will go to bear the burdens of those around us.**

It is the Spirit who gives us the words we need.

**Now, we will go to speak for justice and hope for all.**

**SENDING**

Rev. Kathleen Henrion