

**Prelude**

**Welcome**

**Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation. **Amen.**

Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

Reconciling God, **we confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we deny your presence in our lives. We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts. We fail to believe that you provide enough for all. We abuse your good creation for our own benefit. We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us. We sin in thought, word, and deed. By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.**

Beloved of God, by the radical abundance of divine mercy we have peace with God through ☩ Christ Jesus, through whom we have obtained grace upon grace. Our sins are forgiven. Let us live now in hope. For hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**Opening Hymn – What a Friend We Have in Jesus #742 (red hymnal), #439 (green) vs. 1, 2 & 3**

1. What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear! What a privilege to carry ev'rything to God in prayer! Oh, what peace we often forfeit; oh, what needless pain we bear--all because we do not carry ev'rything to God in prayer!
2. Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere? We should never be discouraged--take it to the Lord in prayer. Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share? Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness--take it to the Lord in prayer.
3. Are we weak and heavy-laden, cumbered with a load of care? Precious Savior, still our refuge--take it to the Lord in prayer. Do your friends despise, forsake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer. In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a solace there.

**Prayer of the Day**

**O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**Gospel: Matthew 16:21-28**

<sup>21</sup>From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. <sup>22</sup>And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." <sup>23</sup>But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." <sup>24</sup>Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>25</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. <sup>26</sup>For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? <sup>27</sup>"For the Son of Man is to come with

his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. <sup>28</sup>Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

## **Sermon**

**Beautiful Savior** #838 (red hymnal), #518 (green) vs. 1, 2, 3, & 4

1. Beautiful Savior, King of creation, Son of God and Son of Man! Truly I'd love thee, truly I'd serve thee, light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
2. Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands, robed in flow'rs of blooming spring; Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, he makes our sorrowing spirit sing.
3. Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight, bright the sparkling stars on high; Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer than all the angels in the sky.
4. Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man! Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be thine!

## **Prayers**

### **Holy Communion**

#### **Post Communion Blessing**

**Abide with Me** #629 (red hymnal), #272 (green) vs. 1, 3 & 5

1. Abide with me, fast falls the eventide. The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide. When other helpers fail and comforts flee, help of the helpless, oh, abide with me.
3. I need thy presence ev'ry passing hour; what but thy grace can foil the tempter's pow'r? Who like thyself my guide and stay can be? Through cloud and sunshine, oh, abide with me.
5. Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes, shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies; heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee; in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

## **Benediction**

### **Announcements**

### **Postlude**