

Service for the Lord's Day

Sample date _____

10:30 AM

GATHERING AND PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

QUIETING OUR HEARTS BEFORE GOD

(a time of silent prayer and reflection in preparation for worship)

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS

Leader: Christ is risen!

People: Christ is risen indeed!

*THE SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

(A greeting; a Prayer of Blessing; a Declaration of our Position with God in Christ)

Leader: The Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

CHORAL INTROIT

“As The Deer”

Martin Nystrom

CALL TO WORSHIP

(based on Psalm 27; John 4:23)

Lay Leader

Leader: Let us worship God, our light and our salvation.

People: The Lord is the stronghold of our lives.

Leader: We desire to live in God's house and to seek God in God's holy temple.

People: We have come with shouts of joy, to sing and to make music to the Lord.

Leader: Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

People: O God, Teach us Your ways and make straight our paths in this hour of worship and always.

INVOCATION

Lay Leader

*HYMN

53

“I Stand in Awe”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lay Leader

(Unison prayer after a time of silent personal confession.)

Creator of all worlds, we confess to sporadic beliefs and inconsistent faithfulness. We confess that too often we remain preoccupied with ourselves, separated from sisters and brothers in Christ. We cling to destructive habits, hold grudges, and show reluctance to welcome

one another. We allow the past to hold us hostage. Between our own actions and the best we know we see a wide gap that we cannot bridge. In the face of natural disasters and cruel inhumanity we doubt that love reigns. Before the mystery of the universe our minds cannot grasp a God who embraces infinity while loving us each moment. O God, we need your healing, forgiving, transforming Spirit. In your loving-kindness have mercy on us and free us from sin. Amen. (adapted from *The Worship Sourcebook*, ©2004 CRC Publications)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Lay Leader

Leader: Take comfort in the assurance that even those things that are hidden from memory, or are too deep for our words, are not beyond God's forgiving love. God, who knows us completely, bestows pardon and peace.

**All:* (sung response # 734-- *Gloria Patri*)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

ENCOUNTERING GOD THROUGH GOD'S WORD AND

SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 73:1-17, 23-26

(Page 909 in Pew Bible)

Lay Leader

ANTHEM

"The Steadfast Love of the Lord"

READING OF SERMON TEXT Malachi 3:13-4:6 (Pg. 1490 in Pew Bible)

SERMON

"Serve God? Why Bother?"

Pastor John

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH* (From Heidelberg Catechism Q 32 and 34)

I am called Christian because by faith I am a member of Christ and so I share in his anointing. I am anointed to confess his name, to present myself to him as a living sacrifice of thanks, to strive with a good conscience against sin and the devil in this life, and afterward to reign with Christ over all creation for all eternity. We call him "our Lord" because -- not with gold or silver, but with his precious blood -- he has set us free from sin and from the tyranny of the devil, and has bought us, body and soul, to be his very own.

MINUTE FOR MINISTRY

Gideon's Ministry

SHARING OF OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

SONG OF PREPARATION FOR PRAYER

482 "Sanctuary" (2x)

THE LORD'S PRAYER (In Unison)

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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

THE GIVING OF OUR OFFERINGS TO GOD

Lay Leader

OFFERTORY

"And Can It Be"
Young Ai Shinn

Wesly/Campbell

**PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS* (Sung Response # 34)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Lay Leader

BRINGING OUR WORSHIP INTO OUR WORLD

** CLOSING HYMN*

466 "Take My Life and Let It Be"

**INVITATION & BENEDICTION* (2 Corinthians 13:14)

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen.

**MUSIC POSTLUDE*