Gathering In

*Song: Praise, Praise, Praise the Lord

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This song may be repeated, adding a vocal part on each repetition: melody (alto) alone; melody + tenor; melody + lower parts; all voices.

TEXT: Cameroon song
MUSIC: Cameroon melody; arr. Ralph M. Johnson, 1994
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* Please stand in body and/or spirit.
Welcome & Call to Worship

Reading & Receiving

*Praying the Psalm: Psalm 16
(Please stand and face the center aisle)
[Refrain: Bless the Lord, My Soul]

Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God’s holy name.

Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.

Protect me, God, because I take refuge in you.
I say to the Lord, “You are my Lord.
Apart from you, I have nothing good.”

God, our proximate protector, you are the source of all good in our lives. For the air we breathe and the bounty of the earth which we share with one another, we give you thanks. We pray for your spirit to dwell here among us--bringing us closer to you, guiding us into truth and authenticity as we serve you in the world.

* Please stand in body and/or spirit.
You, Lord, are my portion, my cup; you control my destiny. The property lines have fallen beautifully for me; yes, I have a lovely home.

[Refrain]

You have called us, O God, to be your people of justice, peace, and compassion. For those whose homes have lost the luster of prosperity, being torn apart by war and natural disaster, we pray for peace, their natural needs, and the resolution of conflict. Lead us from our comforts to be people of great faith, deep love, and overflowing joy.

That’s why my heart celebrates and my mood is joyous; yes, my whole body will rest in safety because you won’t abandon my life to the grave; you won’t let your faithful follower see the pit. You teach me the way of life.

In your presence is total celebration. Beautiful things are always in your right hand.

For the beautiful things in your right hand, O God, we extend our hands to you in praise and adoration. We praise you, we bless you, and we honor you, our protector and our portion. For in your presence is total celebration.

**Beautiful things are always in your right hand. Amen.**

[Refrain]

Scripture: Mark 13:1-8

Michaiah Hinds (MDiv ‘18)

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Gail R. O’Day

Song: “There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy” (vs. 1-3)
There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

There's a wide-ness in God's mercy, like the wide-ness of the sea;
for the sinner, and a prom-ised grace made good;
with the Sav-i-or; and the heart of the E-te-ral is most won-der-
great-er good be-cause of e-vil, larg-er mer-cy.

lib-er-ty. There is no place where earth's sor-rows
ful-ly kind. But we make this love too nar-row
are more felt than up in heav'n. There is no place
by false lim-its of our own, and we mag-ni-

where earth's fail-ings have such kind-ly judg-ment giv'n.
be thank-giv-ing for the good-ness of the Lord.

Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814–1863, alt.
Music: Calvin Hampton, 1838–1904
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Invitation

Beloved in Christ, the Gospel tells us that on the first day of the week Jesus Christ was raised from death, appeared to Mary Magdalene, on that same day sat at the table with two disciples, and was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

This is the joyful feast of the people of God. Men and women, youth and children, come from the east and the west, from the north and the south, and gather about Christ’s table.

This table is for all Christians who wish to know the presence of Christ and to share in the community of God’s people.

Communion Prayer

God be with you
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to God

Let us give thanks to God Most High.
It is right to give God thanks and praise.
[The leader leads in thankfully recalling God’s great acts of salvation and concludes:] With your sons and daughters of faith in all places and times we praise you with joy.

(This will be sung; please follow the directions of the leader. The underlined words indicate overlap.)
Sanctus
Holy, holy, holy Lord
God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full,
are full of your glory
Blessed is the one who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!

[The Leader continues the thanksgiving. The institution of the Lord’s Supper is recalled. The leader concludes:] “Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

Memorial Acclamation (This will be sung; please follow the directions of the leader.)
Christ has died. Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

[The Leader continues in prayer. The Holy Spirit is invoked to bless the gifts of the Table. The Leader concludes:] Be present with us as we share this meal and throughout all our lives, that we may know you as the Holy One, who with Christ and the Holy Spirit, lives forever.

Amen. (This will be sung; please follow the directions of the leader.)

Let us pray as Christ our Savior has taught us:
Lord’s Prayer
Communion Song: “Taste and See”

Refrain

Taste and see, taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

O taste and see, taste and see the goodness of the Lord, of the Lord.

Giving Forth

*Song: “There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy” (v. 4)

Benediction

Rev. Dr. Gail R. O’Day
About the Worship Leader
Dean Gail R. O’Day’s scholarly research focuses on the Gospel of John, the Bible and preaching, and the history of biblical interpretation. She has written a number of books and articles, including the commentary on the Gospel of John in The New Interpreters Bible (1996) and is currently working on a feminist commentary on the Book of Revelation. She is an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ.

Worship
Today’s worship service was planned by Dean Gail R. O’Day, Brenden Kee (MDiv ’18), and Kenneth Pettigrew (MDiv ’16).

The altar design was created by Andria Williamson (MDiv ’17). The bulletin was designed by Christine Hargraves (MDiv ’16).

Communion will be celebrated by intinction today. You will be given or you may receive bread and may choose to dip it in the wine or grape juice.

Bread is Gluten Free and baked by Marisa Fraley (MDiv ’17).

Wine and grape juice are present in both chalices. Wine is in the lesser-filled side of the chalice and is inscribed with a “W.” Grape juice is in the greater-filled side of the chalice and is inscribed with a “J.”

Worship Committee Members
For feedback, suggestions, or offers to participate in worship, please contact a member of the worship committee:

Lindsey Altvater Clifton  Brian Hollingsworth  Daniel Potter
Anna Fleig  Brenden Kee  Daniel Reese
Christine Hargraves  Demi McCoy  Andria Williamson
Emily Hedrick  Ken Pettigrew