

An abstract painting of a woman's figure, rendered in shades of blue, teal, and brown. The figure is positioned on the right side of the image, with its head tilted back and arms raised, creating a sense of movement and grace. The background is a light, textured blue.

# 2022

## CELEBRATE THE GIFTS OF WOMEN

# CELEBRATE THE GIFTS OF WOMEN SUNDAY

March 6, 2022

## GATHERING

**PRAYER FOR MEDITATION:** *Almighty God, whose compassion embraces everyone, gather the outcast and the lost, heal the wounds of fear and distrust, and make us a community of reconciliation that we may embody your merciful love and rejoice in your astounding grace in Jesus Christ. Amen.*

## RINGING OF THE CHIMES

## WELCOME + ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

*Fiesta*

Emma Lou Diemer

Dr. Terry McRoberts

### INTROIT

*This Little Light of Mine*

Zilphia Horton

BLAST Kids

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

*Kathelene White*

One: God has forgiven us and drawn us close,  
**Many:** *reconciling us through Jesus Christ,*  
One: who has lavished upon us the fullness of the blessed Holy Spirit.  
**Many:** *With glad and grateful hearts, praise the Lord!*

### \*HYMN OF PRAISE: 99 *My Soul Gives Glory to My God*

MORNING SONG

### CALL TO CONFESSION

*Rev. Courtney Bowen*

God offers us the gift of forgiveness and the opportunity to let go of our wounds. In faithful witness to God's grace and love, we confess our sins before God and each other.

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*Rev. Courtney Bowen*

*Loving God, we confess that we criticize and pass judgement on others. We have sought to control the way they live their lives of service to you. Forgive us for our shortsightedness and sin. Help us to understand, appreciate and love our siblings in Christ, who have diverse experiences and life challenges. Help us to recognize the variety of ways we can express our faithfulness and love to you.*

### SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION AND REPENTANCE

**\*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

*Rev. Courtney Bowen*

One: Friends, the gifts and calling of God are irrevocable. Receive the gift for forgiveness and share that gift with others.

*Many: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.*

**\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: 441**

*Hear the Good News of Salvation (verse 2)*

NETTLETON

*All the sins I have committed, to my Savior now I bring.*

*I bow down with tears of anguish; Christ forgives and so I sing;*

*Jesus Christ, how much I love you! Jesus Christ, you save from sin!*

*How I love you! Look upon me. Love me still and cleanse within.*

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

One: The peace of Jesus Christ be with you.

*Many: And, also, with you.*

**THE WORD**

**\*HYMN: 324 For All the Faithful Women**

NYLAND

**TIME WITH THE CHILDREN**

*Libby Smith*

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

*Rev. Courtney Bowen*

**ACT OF PRAISE**

*Bread of the World*  
Chancel Choir

Daniel Burton

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

*Kathelene White*

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

*Psalms 67*  
(pg. 529)

*Kathelene White*

One: This is the word of God for the people of God.

*ALL: Thanks be to God.*

**NEW TESTAMENT READING**

*Matthew 15: 21-28*  
(pg. 17)

*Rev. Courtney Bowen*

One: This is the word of God. The grass withers and the flower fades, but the word of the Lord endures forever.

*Many: Thanks be to God.*

**SERMON**

*A Great Faith*

*Rev. Courtney Bowen*

*\*Congregation standing, if able*

## RESPONSE

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *A Brief Statement of Faith*

Kathelene White

*We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the church. In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.*

*In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"*

*(At this time, please find the red friendship pad located toward the center isle on each pew, sign it, pass it down your row and back again, taking note of those who worship with you.)*

**OFFERING**

Kathelene White

**OFFERTORY**

*Although I Speak with Angel's Tongue*

arr. by Barbara Harbach

Dr. Terry McRoberts

\*Doxology (Tune: 591)

OLD HUNDREDTH

*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.*

\*Dedicatory Prayer

## SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

**\*COMMUNION HYMN 509**

*All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly*

HOLY MANNA

**INVITATION TO THE TABLE**

**PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING**

**BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND SHARING OF THE CUP**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

## SENDING

**\*HYMN** *Sing of a Blessing* (see insert)

Miriam Therese Winter

**\*CHARGE + BENEDICTION**

Rev. Courtney Bowen

*(We request that you remain seated until after the Postlude, and ask that you use the Postlude as a time to reflect upon the scripture that was read in today's service.)*

**POSTLUDE**

*Pedal Variations on "When the Roll is Called"*

Joyce Jones

Dr. Terry McRoberts