

Order of Worship
July 23, 2023

PRELUDE: “*My Jesus, I Love Thee*”, Gordon/Halberg Roy Campbell

WORDS OF WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PASSING OF THE PEACE WITH THE CONGREGATION,
PRESENT AND ONLINE**

CALL TO WORSHIP (all)

Leader: God of love and mercy.

People: Come and be with us.

Leader: God of joy and peace.

People: Come and help us.

Leader: God of liberation and freedom.

People: Come and save us.

Leader: God of greatness and power.

People: Come and empower us.

Leader: Come, Lord God, and be with us as we worship. AMEN.

***HYMN OF ADORATION #481**

“Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation”

***1 Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the head and cornerstone,
Chosen of the Lord and precious,
Binding all the Church in one;
Holy Zion's help forever,
And her confidence alone.***

***2 To this temple where we call Thee,
Come, O Lord of hosts, today!
With Thy wonted loving kindness
Hear Thy people as they pray;
And Thy fullest benediction
Shed within its walls alway.***

***3 Here vouchsafe to all Thy servants
What they ask of Thee to gain:
What they gain from Thee forever
With the blessed to retain,
And hereafter in Thy glory
Evermore with Thee to reign. Amen.***

INVOCATION (all)

Eternal God, in whom we live and move and have our being, whose face is hidden from us by our sins, and whose mercy we forget in the blindness of our hearts, cleanse us, we pray, from all our offenses. Deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires, that with lowliness and meekness we may draw near to you, confessing our faults, trusting in your grace, and finding in you our refuge and strength; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

SILENT PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER (all)

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

***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.

SPECIAL MUSIC: "What a Wonderful World", George D. Weiss
Roy Campbell

THE WORD OF GOD

Lay Reader Patty Hill

Old Testament: Psalm 103:1-18

New Testament: Mark 2:1-12

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

***HYMN OF REFLECTION #387 "Near to the Heart of God"**

***1 There is a place of quiet rest,
Near to the heart of God;
A place where sin cannot molest,
Near to the heart of God.***

Refrain:

**O Jesus, blest Redeemer,
Sent from the heart of God,
Hold us, who wait before Thee,
Near to the heart of God.**

**2 There is a place of comfort sweet,
Near to the heart of God;
A place where we our Savior meet,
Near to the heart of God. [Refrain]**

**3 There is a place of full release,
Near to the heart of God;
A place where all is joy and peace,
Near to the heart of God. [Refrain]**

SERMON: “Faith and Imagination” Rev. Dr. Paul R. Adkins

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND PASTORAL PRAYER

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY: “Nearer My God to Thee”

Roy Campbell