

PRELUDE

◇ A time of quiet preparation

*Voluntary/ G. F. Handel
Under His Wings/ arr. R. Hughes
Under His wings, under His wings, Who from His love can sever?
Under His wings my soul shall abide, Safely abide forever.*

WORDS OF GREETING

WE APPROACH GOD

IN WORD

Psalm 100 (NIV)

Unison: Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.

Worship the LORD with gladness;

come before him with joyful songs.

Know that the LORD is God.

It is he who made us, and we are his;

we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving

and his courts with praise;

give thanks to him and praise his name.

For the LORD is good

and his love endures forever;

his faithfulness continues through all generations.

IN PRAYER

*WE PRAISE OUR GOD

HYMN OF PRAISE 88

With Grateful Heart My Thanks I Bring

WE CONFESS OUR FAITH (Trinity Hymnal p. 811)

Psalm 73

Morris Lapi

*WE EXALT OUR LORD

WORSHIP SONGS

Leader: I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do everything through him who gives me strength. Philippians 4:11-13 (NIV)

WE GREET ONE ANOTHER

WELCOME TO VISITORS

WE SEEK GOD'S FACE

Prayers of God's People

WE OFFER OUR GIFTS

OFFERING/ OFFERTORY

*He Hideth My Soul/ arr. B. Greer
Faith Burchfield, soloist*

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE TEXT

Psalm 73 (NIV)

¹ Surely God is good to Israel, to those who are pure in heart. ²

But as for me, my feet had almost slipped; I had nearly lost my foothold. ³ For I envied the arrogant when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.

⁴ They have no struggles; their bodies are healthy and strong. ⁵

They are free from the burdens common to man; they are not plagued by human ills. ⁶ Therefore pride is their necklace; they clothe themselves with violence. ⁷ From their callous hearts

comes iniquity; the evil conceits of their minds know no limits. ⁸

They scoff, and speak with malice; in their arrogance they threaten oppression. ⁹ Their mouths lay claim to heaven, and their tongues take possession of the earth. ¹⁰ Therefore their people turn to them

and drink up waters in abundance. ¹¹ They say, "How can God know? Does the Most High have knowledge?" ¹² This is what the wicked are like— always carefree, they increase in wealth.

¹³ Surely in vain I have kept my heart pure; in vain have I washed my hands in innocence. ¹⁴ All day long I have been plagued; I have been punished every morning. ¹⁵ If I had said, "I will speak thus," I would have betrayed your children. ¹⁶ When I tried to understand all this, it was oppressive to me ¹⁷ till I entered the sanctuary of God; then I understood their final destiny.

¹⁸ Surely you place them on slippery ground; you cast them down to ruin. ¹⁹ How suddenly are they destroyed, completely swept away by terrors! ²⁰ As a dream when one awakes; so when you arise, O Lord, you will despise them as fantasies. ²¹ When my heart was grieved and my spirit embittered, ²² I was senseless and ignorant; I was a brute beast before you.

²³ Yet I am always with you; you hold me by my right hand. ²⁴ You guide me with your counsel, and afterward you will take me into glory. ²⁵ Whom have I in heaven but you? And earth has nothing I desire besides you. ²⁶ My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever. ²⁷ Those who are far from you will perish; you destroy all who are unfaithful to you. ²⁸ But as for me, it is good to be near God. I have made the Sovereign LORD my refuge; I will tell of all your deeds.

SERMON

Caught in the Trap
summer series in the Psalms
Rev. Thomas E. Nicholas

***WE GO FORTH TO SERVE**

HYMN OF RESPONSE **692**

To You, O Lord, I Fly

*WORDS OF PEACE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy/ L. Tourjee