

PRELUDE

◇ A time of quiet preparation

*Hymn of Gladness/ D. Wolford
For the Beauty of the Earth/ arr. E. Rogers*

WORDS OF GREETING

WE APPROACH GOD

IN WORD

Psalm 33:1-5 (NIV)

Leader: Sing joyfully to the Lord, you righteous;

People: It is fitting for the upright to praise him.

Leader: Praise the Lord with the harp;
make music to him on the ten-stringed lyre.

People: Sing to him a new song; play skillfully, and shout for joy.

Leader: For the word of the Lord is right and true;
he is faithful in all he does.

People: The Lord loves righteousness and justice;
the earth is full of his unfailing love.

IN PRAYER

*WE PRAISE OUR GOD

HYMN OF PRAISE 400

O Bless Our God with One Accord

WE CONFESS OUR FAITH

The Apostles' Creed (Jim Harris)

Leader: Christian, what do you believe?

People: I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius
Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended
into hell. The third day
he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and
is seated at the right hand
of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to
judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen

*WE EXALT OUR LORD

WORSHIP SONGS

Leader: O Lord, how many are my foes! How many rise up against me! Many are saying of me, "God will not deliver him." But you are a shield around me, O Lord; you bestow glory on me and lift up my head. To the Lord I cry aloud, and he answers me from his holy hill.
Psalm 3:1-4 (NIV)

WE GREET ONE ANOTHER

DISMISSAL OF CHILDREN TO CHILDREN'S WORSHIP (4 years old to 1st grade)

WELCOME TO VISITORS

WE SEEK GOD'S FACE

Prayers of God's People

WE OFFER OUR GIFTS

OFFERING/ CHORAL OFFERTORY

Prepare Your Hearts/arr. R. Clark

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

II Samuel 15: 1-16 (NIV)

¹ In the course of time, Absalom provided himself with a chariot and horses and with fifty men to run ahead of him. ² He would get up early and stand by the side of the road leading to the city gate. Whenever anyone came with a complaint to be placed before the king for a decision, Absalom would call out to him, "What town are you from?" He would answer, "Your servant is from one of the tribes of Israel." ³ Then Absalom would say to him, "Look, your claims are valid and proper, but there is no representative of the king to hear you." ⁴ And Absalom would add, "If only I were appointed judge in the land! Then everyone who has a complaint or case could come to me and I would see that he gets justice."

⁵ Also, whenever anyone approached him to bow down before him, Absalom would reach out his hand, take hold of him and kiss him. ⁶ Absalom behaved in this way toward all the Israelites who came to the king asking for justice, and so he stole the hearts of the men of Israel.

⁷ At the end of four years, Absalom said to the king, "Let me go to

Hebron and fulfill a vow I made to the LORD. ⁸ While your servant was living at Geshur in Aram, I made this vow: 'If the LORD takes me back to Jerusalem, I will worship the LORD in Hebron. ' "

⁹ The king said to him, "Go in peace." So he went to Hebron.

¹⁰ Then Absalom sent secret messengers throughout the tribes of Israel to say, "As soon as you hear the sound of the trumpets, then say, 'Absalom is king in Hebron.'" ¹¹ Two hundred men from Jerusalem had accompanied Absalom. They had been invited as guests and went quite innocently, knowing nothing about the matter. ¹² While Absalom was offering sacrifices, he also sent for Ahithophel the Gilonite, David's counselor, to come from Giloh, his hometown. And so the conspiracy gained strength, and Absalom's following kept on increasing.

¹³ A messenger came and told David, "The hearts of the men of Israel are with Absalom."

¹⁴ Then David said to all his officials who were with him in Jerusalem, "Come! We must flee, or none of us will escape from Absalom. We must leave immediately, or he will move quickly to overtake us and bring ruin upon us and put the city to the sword."

¹⁵ The king's officials answered him, "Your servants are ready to do whatever our lord the king chooses."

¹⁶ The king set out, with his entire household following him; but he left ten concubines to take care of the palace.

SERMON

On His Majesty's Secret Service
series: Low Visibility, High Impact
Rev. Dwight McKay

***WE GO FORTH TO SERVE**

HYMN OF RESPONSE **681**

How Gentle God's Commands

*WORDS OF PEACE

DISMISSAL OF CHILDREN FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL HOUR

(4 years through 5th grade)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

Postludium/ G. Young