

## PRELUDE

*Partita on "Lobe den Herren"/D. Freudenburg*

◇ A time of quiet preparation

## WORDS OF GREETING

### WE APPROACH GOD

IN WORD from Psalm 89 (NIV)

Leader: I will sing of the Lord's great love forever; with my mouth I will make your faithfulness known through all generations.

People: **I will declare that your love stands firm forever, that you established your faithfulness in heaven itself.**

Leader: O Lord God Almighty, who is like you?  
You are mighty, O Lord, and your faithfulness surrounds you.

People: **You rule over the surging sea; when its waves mount up, you still them. The heavens are yours, and yours also the earth; you founded the world and all that is in it.**

Leader: Blessed are those who have learned to acclaim you, who walk in the light of your presence, O Lord.

People: **They rejoice in your name all day long; they exult in your righteousness. For you are their glory and strength.**

IN PRAYER

### \*WE PRAISE OUR GOD

HYMN OF PRAISE 34 (vss. 1-5)

*The God of Abraham Praise*

### WE CONFESS OUR FAITH

Romans 8:1-14 (NIV)

Readers: Deb Felak and Lynn McKay

Reader 1: Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death.

*Reader 2: For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature,*

Reader 1: God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering.

*Reader 2: And so he condemned sin in sinful man,*

Reader 1: in order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us,

*Reader 2: who do not live according to the sinful nature*

Reader 1: but according to the Spirit.

*Reader 2: Those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what that nature desires;*

Reader 1: but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires.

*Reader 2: The mind of sinful man is death,*

Reader 1: but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace:

*Reader 2: The sinful mind is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot please God.*

Reader 1: You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you.

*Reader 2: And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ.*

Reader 1: But if Christ is in you, your body is dead because of sin, yet your spirit is alive because of righteousness. And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit, who lives in you.

**Congregation: Therefore, brothers, we have an obligation—**

*Reader 2: but it is not to the sinful nature, to live according to it. For if you live according to the sinful nature, you will die;*

**Congregation: But if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live, because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.**