

## PRELUDE

◇ A time of quiet preparation

*Come, Holy Ghost, Our Hearts Inspire/ L. Smith*  
*Come, God Creator, Holy Ghost/ J. S. Bach*  
Douglas Weaver, Guest Organist

## WORDS OF GREETING

### WE APPROACH GOD

IN WORD

Isaiah 6:1-7 (NIV)

Leader: In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a throne, high and exalted, and the train of his robe filled the temple. Above him were seraphs, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying.

People: **And they were calling to one another: “Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory.” At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke.**

Leader: “Woe to me!” I cried. “I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the LORD Almighty.”

People: **Then one of the seraphs flew to me with a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with tongs from the altar. With it he touched my mouth and said, “See, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for.”**

IN PRAYER

### \*WE PRAISE OUR GOD

HYMN OF PRAISE 100

*Holy, Holy, Holy*

### \*WE CONFESS OUR FAITH

Deut. 4:32-37, 39 (NIV)

Leader: Ask now about the former days, long before your time, from the day God created man on the earth; ask from one end of the heavens to the other.

People: **Has anything so great as this ever happened, or has anything like it ever been heard of? Has any other people heard the voice of God speaking out of fire, as you have, and lived?**

Leader: Has any god ever tried to take for himself one nation out of another nation, by testings, by miraculous signs and wonders, by war, by a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, or by great and awesome deeds, like all the things the LORD your God did for you in Egypt before your very eyes?

People: **You were shown these things so that you might know that the LORD is God; besides him there is no other.**

Leader: From heaven he made you hear his voice to discipline you. On earth he showed you his great fire, and you heard his words from out of the fire.

People: **Because he loved your forefathers and chose their descendants after them, he brought you out of Egypt by his Presence and his great strength.**

Leader: Acknowledge and take to heart this day that the LORD is God in heaven above and on the earth below. There is no other.

### \*WE EXALT OUR LORD

WORSHIP SONGS

Leader: In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe. The Son is the radiance of God’s glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. Hebrews 1:1-3 (NIV)

### WE GREET ONE ANOTHER

WELCOME TO VISITORS

### WE OFFER OUR GIFTS

**WE HEAR GOD'S WORD**

SCRIPTURE READING

Exodus 19:9-22

<sup>9</sup> The LORD said to Moses, "I am going to come to you in a dense cloud, so that the people will hear me speaking with you and will always put their trust in you." Then Moses told the LORD what the people had said.

<sup>10</sup> And the LORD said to Moses, "Go to the people and consecrate them today and tomorrow. Have them wash their clothes <sup>11</sup> and be ready by the third day, because on that day the LORD will come down on Mount Sinai in the sight of all the people. <sup>12</sup> Put limits for the people around the mountain and tell them, 'Be careful that you do not go up the mountain or touch the foot of it. Whoever touches the mountain shall surely be put to death. <sup>13</sup> He shall surely be stoned or shot with arrows; not a hand is to be laid on him. Whether man or animal, he shall not be permitted to live.' Only when the ram's horn sounds a long blast may they go up to the mountain."

<sup>14</sup> After Moses had gone down the mountain to the people, he consecrated them, and they washed their clothes. <sup>15</sup> Then he said to the people, "Prepare yourselves for the third day. Abstain from sexual relations."

<sup>16</sup> On the morning of the third day there was thunder and lightning, with a thick cloud over the mountain, and a very loud trumpet blast. Everyone in the camp trembled. <sup>17</sup> Then Moses led the people out of the camp to meet with God, and they stood at the foot of the mountain. <sup>18</sup> Mount Sinai was covered with smoke, because the LORD descended on it in fire. The smoke billowed up from it like smoke from a furnace, the whole mountain trembled violently, <sup>19</sup> and the sound of the trumpet grew louder and louder. Then Moses spoke and the voice of God answered him.

<sup>20</sup> The LORD descended to the top of Mount Sinai and called Moses to the top of the mountain. So Moses went up <sup>21</sup> and the LORD said to him, "Go down and warn the people so they do not force their way through to see the LORD and many of them perish. <sup>22</sup> Even the priests, who approach the LORD, must consecrate themselves, or the LORD will break out against them."

Ex 20:18-21

<sup>18</sup> When the people saw the thunder and lightning and heard the trumpet and saw the mountain in smoke, they trembled with fear. They stayed at a distance <sup>19</sup> and said to Moses, "Speak to us yourself and we will listen. But do not have God speak to us or we will die."

<sup>20</sup> Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid. God has come to test you, so that the fear of God will be with you to keep you from sinning."

<sup>21</sup> The people remained at a distance, while Moses approached the thick darkness where God was.

Heb. 12:18-29

<sup>18</sup> You have not come to a mountain that can be touched and that is burning with fire; to darkness, gloom and storm; <sup>19</sup> to a trumpet blast or to such a voice speaking words that those who heard it begged that no further word be spoken to them, <sup>20</sup> because they could not bear what was commanded: "If even an animal touches the mountain, it must be stoned." <sup>21</sup> The sight was so terrifying that Moses said, "I am trembling with fear."

<sup>22</sup> But you have come to Mount Zion, to the heavenly Jerusalem, the city of the living God. You have come to thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly, <sup>23</sup> to the church of the firstborn, whose names are written in heaven. You have come to God, the judge of all men, to the spirits of righteous men made perfect, <sup>24</sup> to Jesus the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

<sup>25</sup> See to it that you do not refuse him who speaks. If they did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, how much less will we, if we turn away from him who warns us from heaven? <sup>26</sup> At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, “Once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens.” <sup>27</sup> The words “once more” indicate the removing of what can be shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain. <sup>28</sup> Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, <sup>29</sup> for our “God is a consuming fire.”

SERMON

*When God Comes Down*  
series in Exodus

Rev. Thomas E. Nicholas

## **WE COME TO THE LORD’S TABLE**

PREPARATION

THE INVITATION

THE BREAD AND THE CUP

*Please Note:* An elder is available in the rear of the sanctuary during communion to pray with you regarding any needs or issues in your life.

## **WE REMEMBER THOSE IN NEED**

THE LOVE OFFERING/CLOSING HYMN **295** *Crown Him with Many Crowns*

\*WORDS OF PEACE

DISMISSAL OF CHILDREN TO MUSIC ROOM AND SUNDAY SCHOOL HOUR

(4 years through 5th grade)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

*Fugue in A Minor/ J. Pachelbel*