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GATHERING	

**PRELUDE** 

WELCOME

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS** 

Time for silent reflection and confession

Listening God,

Take what is closed in us and open it.

Take what is distracted in us and settle it.

Take what is hurting in us and hold it.

Take any and all parts of us that create distance from you. For we are like Peter, O God.

We argue what we don't know. We fear what we cannot see.

And we almost always speak sooner than we listen.

So open us, settle us, hold us, and forgive us. We long to hear you more clearly. We long to know you more fully. With hope we pray, And with gratitude we confess. Amen.

Dear friends in Christ, we confess with gratitude because we *trust* that God has already heard and forgiven us. Through the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ +, no matter what we have done or left undone, your sin is forgiven and you are held in God's hand. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.** 

### GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

And also with you.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

----- WORD ------

PSALM: PSALM 22:23-31

<sup>23</sup>You who fear the LORD, praise him!

All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him;

stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

<sup>24</sup>For he did not despise or abhor

the affliction of the afflicted;

he did not hide his face from me,

but heard when I cried to him.

<sup>25</sup>From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will pay before those who fear him.
<sup>26</sup>The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD.

May your hearts live forever!
<sup>27</sup>All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD; and all the families of the nations shall worship before him.
<sup>28</sup>For dominion belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations.

<sup>29</sup>To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, and I shall live for him.
 <sup>30</sup>Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the LORD,
 <sup>31</sup>and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that he has done it.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.** 

GOSPEL: MARK 8:31-9:8

The Holy Gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.** 

<sup>31</sup>Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup>He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup>But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

<sup>34</sup>He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. <sup>36</sup>For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? <sup>37</sup>Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? <sup>38</sup>Those who are

ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." <sup>1</sup>And he said to them, "Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see that the kingdom of God has come with power."

<sup>2</sup>Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, <sup>3</sup>and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. <sup>4</sup>And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. <sup>5</sup>Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." <sup>6</sup>He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. <sup>7</sup>Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved listen to him!" <sup>8</sup>Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

The Gospel of our Lord.

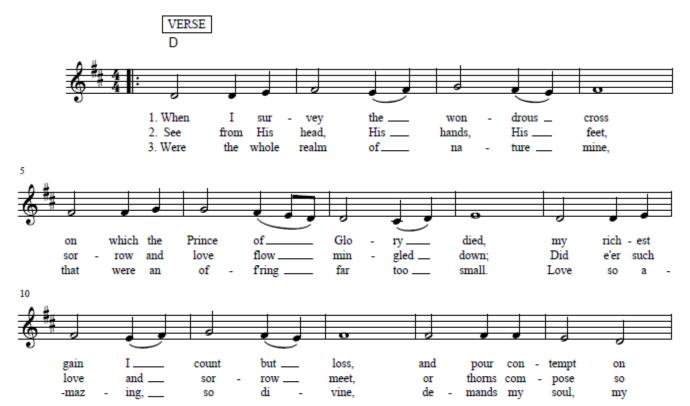
## Praise to you O Christ

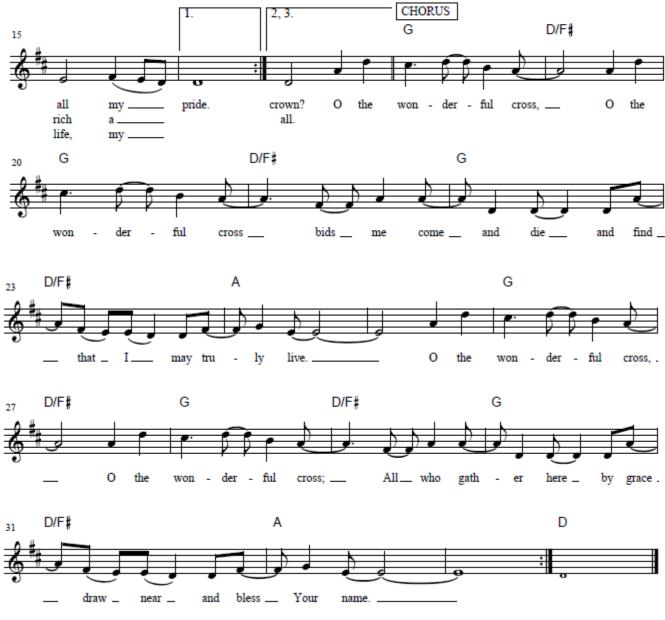
**SERMON** 

HYMN

THE WONDERFUL CROSS

Words by Isaac Watts, J. D. Walt and Chris Tomlin Music by Lowell Mason, Chris Tomlin and Jesse Reeves





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## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Response to "Lord in your mercy" is "hear our prayer." If you would like to add a prayer petition, email it to Pastor Aleese at pastor@shepherdofthecross.org

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#### GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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 and forever. Amen.

### **COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION**

Congregation is invited to share communion elements with those in their family, saying "The body of Christ, given for you," and "the blood of Christ, shed for you." If you are worshipping on your own, hear the words proclaimed by Pastor Aleese as God's Word of promise is spoken to you. All are welcome to share in God's feast given to us in love.

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#### **BLESSING**

As you leave this space,
may your mouth speak of God's goodness;
may your arms hold those in need;
may your feet walk toward justice;
may your heart trust its worth;
may your soul dance in God's grace;
and may this be your rhythm —
again and again and again...
until God's promised day.
In the name of + Jesus Christ: the Beloved, and Love itself:
go with courage, go with heart, go in peace.

Amen.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

# SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you!** 

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