CALL TO WORSHIP: This is the day that the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it! This is the day when the Spirit came. Let us rejoice and be glad in it. This is the day God has called us into his presence. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

INVOCATION: Almighty and Holy Spirit, our Comforter, pure, living, true—illumine, govern, sanctify us, and confirm our hearts and minds in the faith and in all genuine consolation; preserve and rule over us so that, dwelling in the house of the Lord all the days of our lives, we may behold the Lord and praise him with joyful spirit, in union with all the heavenly church, even as we pray together the prayer our Savior taught us when he said, “Our Father….”

ACT OF PRAISE: from Psalm 69  Reader: Russell Johnson
1 Save me, O God, for the waters have come up to my neck.
2 I sink in the miry depths, where there is no foothold. I have come into the deep waters; the floods engulf me.
3 I am worn out calling for help; my throat is parched. My eyes fail, looking for my God.
4 Those who hate me without reason outnumber the hairs of my head; many are my enemies without cause, those who seek to destroy me. I am forced to restore what I did not steal.
5 You, God, know my folly; my guilt is not hidden from you.
6 Lord, the Lord Almighty, may those who hope in you not be disgraced because of me; God of Israel, may those who seek you not be put to shame because of me.
16 Answer me, Lord, out of the goodness of your love, in your great mercy turn to me.
17 Do not hide your face from your servant; answer me quickly, for I am in trouble.
18 Come near and rescue me; deliver me because of my foes.
19 You know how I am scorned, disgraced and shamed, all my enemies are before you.
20 But as for me, afflicted and in pain—may your salvation, God, protect me.
30 I will praise God’s name in song and glorify him with thanksgiving.
31 This will please the Lord more than an ox, more than a bull with its horns and hooves.
32 The poor will see and be glad—you who seek God, may your hearts live!
33 The Lord hears the needy and does not despise his captive people.
34 Let heaven and earth praise him, the seas and all that move in them, for God will save Zion and rebuild the cities of Judah.
Then people will settle there and possess it;
36 the children of his servants will inherit it, and those who love his name will dwell there.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Matthew 3:13-17  Reader: Russell Johnson
13 Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. 14 John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” 15 But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. 16 And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. 17 And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, the Beloved,[a] with whom I am well pleased.”

MESSAGE: Called by God

UNISON PRAYER: Almighty God, send us out filled with your life-giving Holy Spirit, that we may proclaim your gospel through our words and deeds. May your Spirit lead, equip, and empower us to bring you glory now and always. Amen.