“But God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” Romans 5:8

CALL TO WORSHIP: O God, by your power may we, with all the saints, comprehend the breadth and length and height and depth of the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that we may be filled with your fullness. Be with as we gather to worship.

INVOCATION: Mighty God, we do not yet see the glory you plan for all humankind, but in faith we do see Jesus. We thank you for the humility and holiness in which he lived and died. We praise you that he freed us from our sin, that he comforts and strengthens us through our struggles, and that he gives us courage to follow him. For this, we now join with all creation and shout for joy: Holy, holy, holy are you, even as we pray the way he taught us when he said, “Our Father …”

ACT OF PRAISE: Psalm 25 Reader:
1 To you, O L ORD, I lift up my soul.
2 O my God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame;
   do not let my enemies exult over me.
3 Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame;
   let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.
4 Make me to know your ways, O L ORD; teach me your paths.
5 Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation;
   for you I wait all day long.
6 Be mindful of your mercy, O L ORD, and of your steadfast love,
   for they have been from of old.
7 Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
   according to your steadfast love remember me, for your goodness’ sake, O L ORD!
8 Good and upright is the L ORD therefore he instructs sinners in the way.
9 He leads the humble in what is right and teaches the humble his way.
10 All the paths of the L ORD are steadfast love and faithfulness,
   for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.
11 For your name’s sake, O L ORD, pardon my guilt, for it is great.
12 Who are they that fear the L ORD?
   He will teach them the way that they should choose.
13 They will abide in prosperity,
   and their children shall possess the land.
14 The friendship of the L ORD is for those who fear him, and he makes his covenant known to them.
15 My eyes are ever toward the L ORD, for he will pluck my feet out of the net.
16 Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted.
17 Relieve the troubles of my heart, and bring me[a] out of my distress.
18 Consider my affliction and my trouble, and forgive all my sins.
19 Consider how many are my foes, and with what violent hatred they hate me.
20 O guard my life, and deliver me;
   do not let me be put to shame, for I take refuge in you.
21 May integrity and uprightness preserve me, for I wait for you.
22 Redeem Israel, O God, out of all its troubles.
ANNOUNCEMENTS

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Romans 5:1-11    Reader:
1 Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we[a] have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2 through whom we have obtained access[b] to this grace in which we stand; and we[c] boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. 3 And not only that, but we[d] also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, 4 and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, 5 and hope does not disappoint us, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. 6 For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. 7 Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. 8 But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. 9 Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God.[e] 10 For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. 11 But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

MESSAGE: Peace and More with God

BENEDICTION: Go out into the world in peace: have courage; hold on to what is good; return no one evil for evil; help the suffering; honor all; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. With God’s help we will. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you forever. Amen.