

Worship Guide March 1, 2026

GATHERING

Welcome and Announcements Pastor Andrew

Call to Worship

Pastor: We lift up our eyes to the hills – from where will our help come?

**Many: Our help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.**

Pastor: Even when fear strikes us, we know that we are safe...

**Many: ...Because we belong to God. We lift our voices in thanks and praise.**

**All: Let us worship God together!**

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Song – LYH #85 “Thy Word” Worship Leader Emmanuel

**(Note: people do not stand during the candle lighting)**

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

When I feel afraid, think I’ve lost my way, still you’re there right beside me.

And nothing will I fear, as long as you are near,

Please be near me, to the end.

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

(Interlude: Child lights candle)

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

Presenting the Word

Worship Leader: Your Word Lord, is eternal.

**All: It stands firm in the heavens forever!” Psalm 119:89**

(Bible is walked to the table)

Song - PH #582 “Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines” Worship Leader Emmanuel

**Leader: Please rise as able (or indicate rising with hands)**

V1 – Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,

and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,  
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen

V2 – World without end, without end. Amen.  
World without end, without end. Amen.  
World without end, without end. Amen  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen

**Leader: Please be seated**

**Confession and Pardon          Worship Assistant Holton**

Confession of Sin

Leader: Please join me as we confess our sins together.

**All: Teacher,  
you call us to go,  
following the plan that you have set out for us.  
You promise us blessings and purpose,  
but we do not trust your words.  
We cling to what we already know,  
we trust in what we can see and touch,  
we make excuses for our failure to trust in you.  
Call to us again,  
that we may be born again through your Spirit.  
Help us to believe  
and give us the abundant life  
that comes from following your will.  
In Christ's name, hear our silent prayers of return...**

Moment of silence (as people confess their own sins)

**Assurance of Pardon          Worship Assistant Holton**

Leader: Hear the good news: God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

**Many: Thanks be to God! We will bear witness to God's saving grace  
with our lives. Amen.**

**Doxology PH #609          Worship Leader Emmanuel**

**Leader: Please rise as able (or indicate rising with hands)**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,

Praise Christ, all creatures high and low.

Alleluia, alleluia.

Praise God in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word and Spirit one.

Alleluia, alleluia,

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

### **Children's Blessing "You are Somebody" - Worship Leader Emmanuel**

**Leader:** Will the children come forward for the blessing

You are somebody, somebody on the Lord's side.

You are somebody, somebody on the Lord's side.

(repeat)

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

(Turn and share the peace with the people around you)

### **OFFERING**

Invitation to Offering

**Worship Assistant Holton**

(WA to ask people to return to seats as needed before starting)

Leader: Let us return to God the offerings of our life and the gifts of the earth.

*The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it,*

*The world, and those who live in it. (Ps 24:1)*

Bread and Cup

Leader: For God so loved the world he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish, but have everlasting life!

(WA to pause and wait for the children to bring up the elements and recess to the back of the chapel)

Leader: Now, as Christ humbled himself and gave Himself on the cross on our behalf, let us consecrate our tithes and offerings to Him! Even more than this: Let us "present our bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is our spiritual worship!

Presentation of tithes and offerings

**Song - LYH #151 "Come, Spirit, Come"      Worship Leader Emmanuel**

**Leader: Please rise as able (or indicate rising with hands)**

Come, Holy Spirit, dwell here among us.  
We need your power, your healing grace.  
Show us your favor, grant us your presence  
As you have promised, come, Spirit, come.  
(Repeat verse)

Come, rushing wind, come holy fire,  
Here and now descend.  
O breath of God, O perfect peace, revive us once again.

Come, Holy Spirit, dwell here among us.  
We need your power, your healing grace.  
Show us your favor, grant us your presence  
As you have promised, come, Spirit, come.  
As you have promised, come, Spirit, come.

**Dedication of Offering      Worship Assistant Holton (own words for prayer)**

**Leader: You may be seated.**

**THE WORD**

**Story Time: "Beyond Our Imaginations" (John 3:1-21)**

**Song - LYH #53 "Sing Unto the Lord"      Worship Leader Emmanuel**

**Leader: Please rise as able (or indicate rising with hands)**

Sing unto the Lord a new song;  
Sing unto the Lord all the earth.  
Sing unto the Lord a new song;  
Sing unto the Lord all the earth.

For God is great, and greatly to be praised.  
God is great, and greatly to be praised!

Sing unto the Lord a new song;  
Sing unto the Lord all the earth.  
Sing unto the Lord a new song;  
Sing unto the Lord all the earth.

For God is great, and greatly to be praised.  
God is great, and greatly to be praised!

Sing unto the Lord a new song;  
Sing unto the Lord all the earth.  
Sing unto the Lord a new song;  
Sing unto the Lord all the earth. Amen!

(Children leave during song)

Leader: You may be seated.

Prayer for Illumination      **Pastor Andrew**

Leader: Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
that as the scriptures are read  
and your Word is proclaimed,  
we may hear with joy what you say to us today.

Leader: Our scripture today is John 3:1-17. After the text is being read, we will  
take a few minutes to meditate on God's Word. Hear the Word of the Lord:

### **Scripture Reading John 3:1-17**

**3** Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup> He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person." <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." <sup>4</sup> Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" <sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup> What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup> Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' <sup>8</sup> The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." <sup>9</sup> Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" <sup>10</sup> Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? <sup>11</sup> "Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup> If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup> No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of

Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord!

**Response: Thanks be to God!**

Leader: Now, let us sit quietly and open our hearts to God's word and spirit as we reflect on the word; in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen!

### **Silent Meditation**

**Sermon " Seeking and Finding" Pastor Andrew Chapdelaine**

**Song PH #519 PH - "You Are My Strength" Worship Leader Emmanuel**

**Leader: Please rise as able (or indicate rising with hands)**

You are my strength when I am weak,  
You are the treasure that I seek.  
You are my all in all.

When I fall down, you pick me up,  
When I am dry you fill my cup.  
You are my all in all.

Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is your name.  
Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is your name.  
(repeat entire song)

**Confession of Faith Worship Assistant Holton**

Leader: Please remain standing as we confess our faith:

**As Jesus Christ is God's assurance  
of the forgiveness of all our sins,  
so in the same way and with the same seriousness**

is he also God's mighty claim upon our whole life.  
Through him befalls us a joyful deliverance  
from the godless fetters of this world  
for a free, grateful service to God's creatures.  
We reject the false doctrine,  
as though there were areas of our life  
in which we would not belong to Jesus Christ,  
but to other lords—  
areas in which we would not need justification  
and sanctification through Christ.

Leader: You may be seated.

Prayers of the People **Worship Assistant Holton**

**Song LYH #109 "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace"      Worship Leader Emmanuel**

Leader: Please rise as able (or indicate rising with hands)

V1 - Make me a channel of your peace,  
Where there is hatred, let me bring your love.  
Where there is injury your pardon, Lord.  
And where there's doubt, true faith in you.

(Refrain)

Oh! Master, grant that I may never seek,  
So much to be consoled as to console,  
To be understood as to understand,  
To be loved as to love with all my soul.

V2 - Make me a channel of your peace.  
Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope;  
Where there is darkness, only light,  
And where there's sadness, ever joy.

(Refrain)

Oh! Master, grant that I may never seek,  
So much to be consoled as to console,  
To be understood as to understand,

To be loved as to love with all my soul.

V3 - Make me a channel of your peace,  
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned.  
In giving to all that we receive,  
And in dying that we're born to eternal life.

**Leader: You may be seated.**

## **COMMUNION** Led by Pastor

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Pastor: Jesus said: Come to me, all you that are weary  
and carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.  
Let us remember that the table is not a right bestowed upon the worthy,  
but a privilege given to the undeserving.  
Christ invites all to his table.  
This table helps us to strive for authenticity in all aspects of our lives,  
and helps us to seek to live in peace with each other and our communities.

Great Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Pastor: God, creator of the universe,  
it is right, and a good and joyful thing,  
always and everywhere to give thanks to you, O God:  
our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer.  
Out of chaos you bring order and care.  
You breathe life into our weary lungs.  
Even from our depths, you remain steadfast.  
You love us not in spite of our sins, but regardless of them.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending refrain:

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed in the he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Pastor: Holy are you, and blessed is your son, Jesus Christ, who redeems us all.  
He welcomed those deemed strangers,  
and he challenged the status quo.  
He delivered, fed, and cared for those whom society ignored.  
When the time came, he took up his cross  
and died that we might live a new life.  
Remembering all your mighty and merciful acts,  
we break bread and share one cup,  
giving thanks for your saving love in Jesus Christ  
and offering ourselves to live for him  
as a holy and living sacrifice,  
in union with Christ's offering for us,  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**All: Christ has died,  
Christ has risen,  
Christ will come again.**

Pastor: Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us  
and upon these gifts of bread and of the vine.  
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,  
that we may be his body for the world.  
redeemed and restored.  
By your Spirit make us one with him,  
one with each other,  
and one in ministry to all the world,  
until we feast with him in glory.  
All thanks and praise to you, O triune God,  
now and forever.  
**All: Amen.**

### Lord's Prayer

Pastor: Let us pray for God's rule on earth as Jesus taught us:

**All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and forever.  
Amen.**

### Breaking of the Bread

Pastor:

God, we give you thanks that on the night of his arrest  
Jesus took bread, and after giving thanks to you,  
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take, eat. This is my body, given for you.  
Do this in remembrance of me.  
In the same way he took the cup, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood,  
shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.  
Whenever you drink it,  
do this in remembrance of me.  
Every time you eat this bread and drink the cup,  
you proclaim the saving death of the risen Lord,  
until he comes.  
With thanksgiving, let us offer God all that we are.  
Friends, this is the joyful feast of the people of God!

### Communion of the People

Pastor:

The table is set. Our savior joyfully awaits.  
After the deacons come forward to serve, please, come to the table!

(Explanation of intinction, individual serving cups if preferred. Deacons will note any who want cups or who need to be served in their seats.)

(Musical Interlude)

Prayer after Communion

Pastor: God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation  
you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people.

**All: Send us forth in the power of your Spirit,  
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world  
and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

## **SENDING**

**Charge and Blessing Pastor Andrew**

Pastor: Please stand for the benediction  
(Pastor returns to pew)

**Song LYH #137 “No One Will Ever Be the Same” Worship Leader Emmanuel**

V1 - We're going to shine like the sun in the Kingdom of Heaven,  
Shine like the sun in the Kingdom of Heaven;  
We're going to shine like the sun in the Kingdom of Heaven  
And no one will ever be the same.

And it's all in Jesus' name; and it's all in Jesus' name;  
Yes it's all in Jesus' name that no one will ever be the same.

(Pastor recesses down from aisle after first verse)

V5 - And it all starts now in the Kingdom of Heaven,  
All starts now in the Kingdom of Heaven,  
And it all starts now in the Kingdom of Heaven,  
And no one will ever be the same.

And it's all in Jesus' name; and it's all in Jesus' name;  
Yes it's all in Jesus' name that no one will ever be the same.

Close