

Verse 2...So let's stop the boasting about the great things we all have done. Let the glory go to God alone.  
Sing Channel and Chorus...

(Spoken by leader)...“We are the clay, and You are our Potter; we are the work of Your hand.” (Isaiah 64:8)  
Sing Channel...

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### “Jesus, Name Above All Names”

(Matthew 1:21-23; Luke 1:31-33; Philipians 2:9-11; 2 Thessalonians 1:32)

Verse 1...Jesus, name above all names; beautiful Savior, glorious Lord, Emmanuel, God is with us; blessed Redeemer, Living Word.

Verse 2...Jesus, loving Shepherd, Vine of the branches, Son of God, Prince of Peace, Wonderful Counselor, Lord of the universe, Light of the world.

Verse 3...Jesus, Way of Salvation, King of kings, Lord, of lords, the Way, the Truth, and the Life, Mighty Creator, My Savior and Friend.

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### --COMMUNION DISMISSAL

### --MEMORY VERSE

And he said to them, “Why were you looking for me?  
Did you not know that I must be in my  
Father’s house?” (Luke 2:49)

### --BENEDICTION

### --CLOSING SONG “Today Is The Day”

(Psalm 118:24)

Verse 1...I'm casting my cares aside; I'm leaving my past behind; I'm setting my heart and mind on You, Jesus.

Channel...I'm reaching my hands to Yours; believing there's so much more; Knowing that all You have in store for me is good, is good.

(continued...)

Chorus...Today is the day You have made, I will rejoice and be glad in it. Today is the day You have made, I will rejoice and be glad in it. And I won't worry about tomorrow, I'm trusting in what You say. Today is the day.  
Today is the day.

Verse 2...I'm putting my fears aside; I'm leaving my doubts behind; I'm giving my hopes and dreams to You, Jesus.  
Channel and Chorus, then ...

Bridge...[Men, lead] - I will stand upon Your truth.  
[Women, follow] - I will stand upon Your truth.

[Men, lead] And all my days I'll live for You.  
[Women, follow] All my days I'll live for You.

[Men, lead] And I will stand upon Your truth.  
[Women, follow] I will stand upon Your truth.

[Men, lead] And all my days I'll live for You.  
[Women, follow] All my days I'll live...

Final Chorus...Today is the day You have made, I will rejoice and be glad in it. Today is the day You have made, I will rejoice and be glad in it. And I won't worry about tomorrow, I'm giving You my fears and sorrows. Where You lead me I will follow; I'm trusting in what You say. Today is the day. Today is the day. Today is the day. Today is the day. Today is the day.

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P. Go in God's peace; love and serve your neighbor!  
C. Thanks be to God!

\* \* \* **TO GOD BE THE GLORY** \* \* \*

#### LEADING WORSHIP

**Pastor:** The Rev. Paul Rieger

**Music:** Connection Team

**Soundboard:** Braxton and Neal Weeg

**Elder:** Curt Becher

**Worship Assistants:** Edward Morison, Wayne Meyer

## THE CONNECTION

January 2, 2022  
10:30am

“CONNECT...  
GROW...  
GO...”



### --PRESERVICE SONG “Your Name”

### --WELCOME & WORDS OF PEACE

### --MATTERS OF IMPORTANCE / TITHES & OFFERING

### --MEMORY VERSE

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined. (Isaiah 9:2)

### --WORSHIP SONG “Your Grace is Enough”

(2 Corinthians 12:9)

Verse 1...Great is Your faithfulness, oh God. You wrestle with the sinner's heart. You lead us by still waters into mercy, and nothing can keep us apart.

Channel...So remember Your people, remember Your children, remember Your promise, oh God.

Chorus...Your grace is enough.  
Your grace is enough. Your grace is enough for me.

Verse 2..Great is Your love and justice, God. You use the weak to lead the strong. You lead us in the song of Your salvation, and all Your people sing along.

Repeat Channel, Chorus twice, then Channel, then...

Chorus 2...Your grace is enough. Your grace is enough. Your grace is enough for me. Your grace is enough, Heaven reaching down to us. Your grace is enough for me. Your grace is enough. I'm covered in Your blood. Your grace is enough for me. For me.

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### --INVOCATION

## --CONFESSION OF SINS

## --ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

## --STATEMENT OF WHAT WE BELIEVE

### “This I Believe (The Creed)”

Verse 1...Our Father everlasting, the all creating One, God almighty. Through Your Holy Spirit, conceiving Christ the Son, Jesus our Savior.

Chorus... I believe in God our Father, I believe in Christ the Son. I believe in the Holy Spirit, Our God is three in One. I believe in the resurrection, that we will rise again. For I believe in the name of Jesus.

Verse 2... Our Judge and our Defender, suffered and crucified, forgiveness is in You. Descended into darkness, You rose in glorious life, forever seated high. Chorus...

Chorus 2... I believe in life eternal, I believe in the virgin birth. I believe in the saints' communion and in Your holy church. I believe in the resurrection, when Jesus comes again. For I believe in the name of Jesus. For I believe in the name of Jesus.

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## --FIRST LESSON Numbers 6:22-27

<sup>22</sup>The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, <sup>23</sup>“Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, Thus you shall bless the people of Israel: you shall say to them,

<sup>24</sup>The LORD bless you and keep you;

<sup>25</sup>the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;

<sup>26</sup>the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

<sup>27</sup>So shall they put my name upon the people of Israel, and I will bless them.”

## --SECOND LESSON Galatians 3:23-29

<sup>23</sup>Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. <sup>24</sup>So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith.

<sup>25</sup>But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, <sup>26</sup>for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. <sup>27</sup>For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. (continued...)

<sup>28</sup>There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. <sup>29</sup>And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

## --GOSPEL LESSON Luke 2:40-52

<sup>40</sup>And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

<sup>41</sup>Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. <sup>42</sup>And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. <sup>43</sup>And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, <sup>44</sup>but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances, <sup>45</sup>and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. <sup>46</sup>After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions.

<sup>47</sup>And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. <sup>48</sup>And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, “Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress.” <sup>49</sup>And he said to them, “Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?” <sup>50</sup>And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them.

<sup>51</sup>And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them.

And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart.

<sup>52</sup>And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.

## --CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### --MESSAGE SONG “Where There Is Faith”

(1 Corinthians 15: 12-20a)

Verse 1...I believe in faithfulness. I believe in giving of myself for someone else. I believe in peace and love. I believe in honesty and trust but it's not enough. For all that I believe may never change the way it is, unless I believe that Jesus lives.

(continued...)

Chorus...Where there is faith there is a voice calling, keep walking you're not alone in this world. Where there is faith there is a peace like a child sleeping, hope everlasting in Him, Who is able to bear every burden; to heal every hurt in my heart. It is a wonderful, powerful place, where there is faith.

Verse 2...There's a man across the sea, never heard the sound of freedom ring, only in his dreams. There's a lady dressed in black in a motorcade of Cadillacs; daddy's not coming back. Our hearts begin to fail, and our stability grows weak, but Jesus meets our needs, if we only believe. Chorus twice, then...

Tag... Where there is faith.

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## --MESSAGE OF THE DAY

“CHILDREN OF GOD” ~The Rev. Paul Rieger

## --PRAYERS

(Sung before and after the prayers)

“The Spirit Intercedes For Us” (Romans 8:26)

The Spirit intercedes for us, with sighs too deep for words to express, oh, oh, oh.

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The Pastor will lift up the Prayers of the Church and conclude with, “Holy Spirit, in our weakness help us to pray...”

## --THE LORD'S PRAYER

## --WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## --SONG FOR DISTRIBUTION “Instruments”

(1 Corinthians 9:16; Isaiah 64:8; Romans 6:13-14)

Verse 1...We are not here to tell you about the great things that we have done. All the glory goes to God alone.

Channel...For we are but the instruments in the Master's perfect plan. Merely tools in the Potter's hands.

Chorus...God has chosen us today to witness in this place, and we pray we follow in His way.

God has chosen each of you to witness in this place, and we pray you follow in His way. (continued...)