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GATHERING AS THE CHURCH

Asterisks (*) indicate an invitation to stand as you are able.

GATHERING VOLUNTARY

GREETING



As you prepare for worship, please greet your neighbors and fill out a Connections Card by scanning this QR code with your smartphone or use the printed version found in the pew in front of you. To let our pastors know about a prayer request for you or someone you love, use the QR code found at the bottom of page 9 of this bulletin or place your card in the offering basket when it is passed.

Response: I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord!" Psalm 122:1

ENTERING THE HOLY

* CALL TO WORSHIP

To worship is to dance with the Spirit of Love, who is alive in each of us.

Through worship we speak and sing our visions of the new creation into reality.

Through worship

we breathe the air of a time yet to be,
a time when barriers are broken down
and wounds are healed.

Let us celebrate with hope

that silenced voices will be heard,
trembling voices will be made strong,
oppressed people will be set free,
so that the Spirit at work yesterday, today, and forever
will be proclaimed.

Jann Aldredge-Clanton, Earth Transformed with Music! Inclusive Songs for Worship, Eakin Press 2015

Welcome All sing together at the refrain each stanza



Words: Laurie Zelman and Mark Miller

Music: Mark Miller

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*INVOCATION

HYMN IN PROCESSION Gathered Here to Share Our Music



HEARING GOD'S WORD

And Are We Yet Alive?

And are we yet alive?! And see each other's face? Glory and thanks to Jesus give for God's almighty grace! What troubles have we seen? What mighty conflicts past, fightings without and fears within since we assembled last! Hallelujah, we are alive! And see each other's face. Glory, thanks and praise for God's almighty grace! Yet out of all our God has brought us through by love! And still God does this help afford, and hides our life above. Hallelujah, we are alive! And see each other's face. Glory, thanks and praise for God's almighty grace! Words: Charles Wesley, Mark A. Miller Music: Mark A. Miller © 2020 Choristers Guild

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I Believe

I believe in the sun even when it's not shining. I believe in love even when I don't feel it. I believe in God even when God is silent.

Words: Anonymous Jewish poem

Music: Mark A. Miller

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When the Fig Tree Fails to Blossom

When the fig tree fails to blossom and no fruit is on the vine; when the fields are bare as deserts and our hope is hard to find; when a song of celebration seems entirely out of place; when our lives are stretched to breaking, hanging by a thread of grace: we will rejoice in the Lord. When the sun and moon are shaken and the heavens lose their light; when we think we are forsaken, there's a comforter in sight, for the day is surely coming when these labor-pains have passed. We will greet the new creation and, with all the saints at last: we will rejoice. Words: David Gambrell Music: Mark A. Miller © Mark A. Miller (All rights reserved. Used by permission.) --5--

You taught my heart what love can be, so I'm headed back home by another road. I once was bound, but now am free, so I'm headed home by another road. Join me now, the road is wide, all God's children side by side, where justice will shine and love a abide, we're headed back home by another road. God's people on the move again, and we're headed back home by another road. The power of love has made us kin, and we're headed back home by another road. Still worshipping we're on the way, and we're headed back home by another road. We'll hold each other's hearts this day, and we're headed back home by another road. Words: Lindy Thompson and Mark A. Miller Music: Mark Miller © 2019 Choristers Guild (All rights reserved. Used by permission OneLicense.net #A705700.)

Child of God

No matter what people say or think about me, I am a child of God. No matter what people say or think about you, you are a child of God. No matter what the world says or thinks about me,

I am a child of God.

No matter what the church says,

decisions, pronouncements on you,

you are a child of God.

And there is no thing,

or no one who can separate,

they can't separate you from the truth

that you are someone, you are family,

you are meant to be a child of God!

Words and Music: Mark A. Miller

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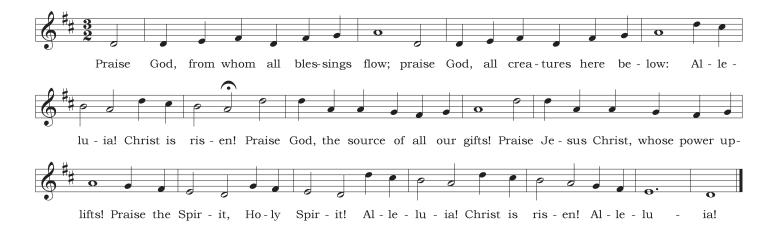
RESPONDING IN FAITH

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Transgender Education Network of Texas

OFFERING	O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing	Mark A. Miller
	(With Referen	nces to AZMON by Carl Gläser)
O for a thousand tong	gues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,	
the glories of my Go	d and King,	
the triumphs of his g	grace!	
My gracious Master an	nd my God,	
assist me to proclaim	1,	
to spread through al	ll the earth abroad the honors of thy name.	
Jesus! the name that c	harms our fears,	
that bids our sorrows	s cease;	
'tis music in the sinn	ner's ears,	
'tis life, and health, a	and peace.	
Hear him, ye deaf; his	praise ye dumb,	
your loosened tongu	ies employ;	
ye blind, behold you	r Savior come,	
and leap, ye lame, fo	or joy.	
Words: Charles Wesley		
Music: Mark A. Miller; Azmon, O	Carl Gläser	
Music © 2000 Abingdon Press; 7	The United Methodist Publishing House	
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* PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING



Words: Thomas Ken; adapt. Gilbert H. Viera

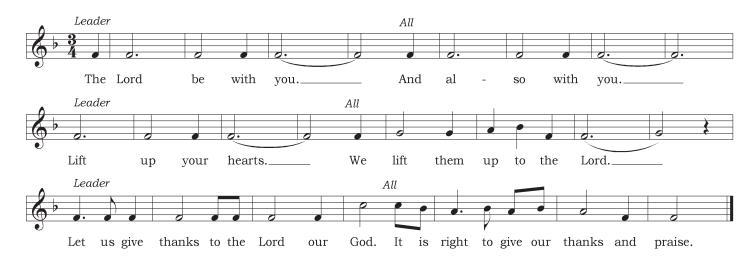
Music: Lasst Uns Erfreuen, Geistliche Kirchengesänge

Words adapt. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House

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FEASTING AT THE TABLE OF GRACE

*** THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**



Divine Protector, Defender of Life,

your love for this world is everlasting.

As oceans burn and species go extinct,

our children are made vulnerable at school

and our neighbors are denied at our borders,

there is so much reason to despair.

But you, O God, refuse to abandon us to destruction.

Christ takes on flesh.

In the midst of struggle,

you are glimpses of hope,

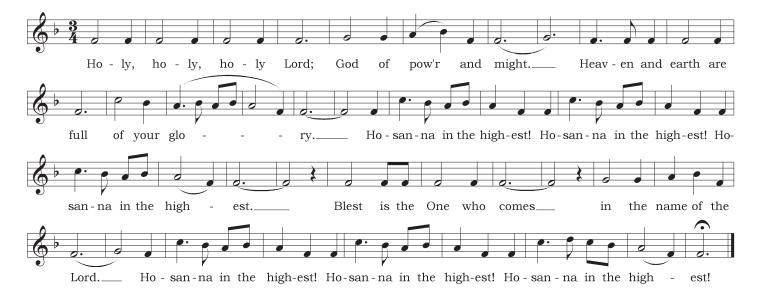
encounters of freedom,

tastes of what satisfies when so much leaves empty.

In these incarnate moments,

we sense the closeness of your Kindom,

and we are inspired to sing with all creation in praise of you:



You, O God, reorder the world into right-relationship.

You lift high those made low.

You humble the arrogant.

You hear the earth groaning under greed and consumption

and your fire burns in the hearts of your prophets.

With this hope and assurance,

we turn to the witness of Jesus

whose teachings reveal the way to liberation.

We seek his wisdom.

We practice his courage.

We remember his radical commitment to love.

On the night of his arrest,

Jesus shared a meal with his companions.

He took bread, blessed it, broke it, gave it to his disciples and said:

"This is my body which is given for you.

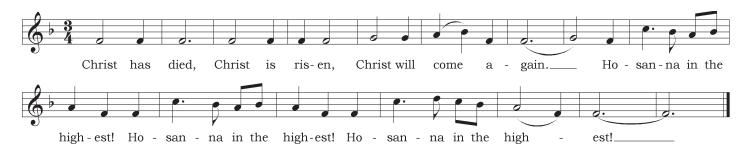
Do this in remembrance of me."

After the meal, he took the cup, blessed it, and shared it saying:

"This cup that is poured out is the new covenant."

In remembrance of the love that saves us,

we proclaim the mystery of our faith:



May the Spirit come and settle upon these gifts,

making this bread and this cup be for us a Holy Encounter,

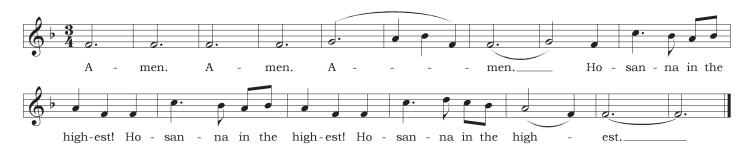
reminding us that Christ is with us,

that Resurrection is a promise granted to us,

and that the Kindom is always closer than we can imagine.

May we be nourished,

that we might nourish others.



THE LORD'S PRAYER

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. Amen.

RECEIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

HYMNS DURING RECEIVING

Ayudanos, O Dios



We Will Rejoice In Love



I Dream of a Church



Words and Music: Mark A. Miller

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PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING

Beloved One,

if we grow weary in love,

may this meal live on as a reminder of what sustains us.

In seeking the flourishing you intend for us, our neighbors, and this planet,

keep our hearts tender, our spirits alive, and our senses attuned

to the beauty that surrounds.

With gratitude for your abiding presence, we pray.

Amen.

'Til all the jails are empty and all the bellies filled; 'til no one hurts or steals or lies, and no more blood is spilled: God has work for us to do, 'til God's will is done and all things are made new, God has work for us to do. 'Til age and race and gender no longer separate; 'til pulpit, press, and policies are free of greed and hate: God has work for us to do, 'til God's will is done and all things are made new, God has work for us to do. In tenement and mansion, in factory, farm, and mill, in board room and in billiard hall, in wards where time stands still, in classroom, church, and office, in shops, or on the street, in every place where people thrive, or starve, or hide, or meet. God has work for us. By sitting at a bedside to hold pale, trembling hands, by speaking for the powerless against unjust demands. By praying through our doing, and singing though we fear, by trusting that the seed we sow will bring God's harvest near. God has work for us to do, 'til God's will is done and all things are made new, God has work for us to do. Words: Carl p. Daw, Jr. Words © 1996 Hope Publishing Co. Music: Mark A. Miller Music: © 2012 Choristers Guild

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GOING OUT TO SERVE

* BENEDICTION

* HYMN

Draw the Circle Wide





+ + +

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Celebrant Reverend Taylor Fuerst Music Mark A. Miller Scott Davis

WORSHIP MUSIC

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