PRELUDE Romans 5:7-8

CALL TO WORSHIP – from Psalm 145

I will extol you, my God and King,
and bless your name for ever and ever.
Every day I will bless you,
and praise your name for ever and ever.
Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;
his greatness is unsearchable.
One generation shall laud your works to another,
and shall declare your mighty acts.
On the glorious splendour of your majesty,
and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.
The might of your awesome deeds shall be proclaimed,
and I will declare your greatness.
They shall celebrate the fame of your abundant goodness,
and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.
The Lord is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
The Lord is good to all,
and his compassion is over all that he has made.

My mouth will speak the praise of the Lord,
and all flesh will bless his holy name for ever and ever.

*HYMN #578 Forever

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Most High and holy God, you are merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. You have called us to be the same. But, we respond to offence with might rather than mercy. We seek glory rather than give grace. We long for power rather than turn to patience. We seek your salvation, but our love for others is not yet

steadfast. We fall short. Share your Spirit with us so that we might continue to be transformed. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayers.

HYMN #360 You Are My King

please remain seated

ASSURANCE OF PARDON – from Psalm 103

The Lord works vindication
  and justice for all who are oppressed.
God made known his ways to Moses,
  his acts to the people of Israel.
The Lord is merciful and gracious,
  slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
The Lord will not always accuse,
  nor will he keep his anger for ever.
God does not deal with us according to our sins,
  nor repay us according to our iniquities.
For as the heavens are high above the earth,
  so great is God's steadfast love towards those who fear him;
as far as the east is from the west,
  so far he removes our transgressions from us.

ANTHEM I Thessalonians 5:18

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 9:1-7

But there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.
The people who walked in darkness
  have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
  on them light has shined.
You have multiplied the nation,
  you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
  as with joy at the harvest,
  as people exult when dividing plunder.
For the yoke of their burden,
  and the bar across their shoulders,
  the rod of their oppressor,
  you have broken as on the day of Midian.
For all the boots of the tramping warriors
  and all the garments rolled in blood
  shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

For a child has been born for us,
  a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
  and he is named
Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,
  Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
His authority shall grow continually,
  and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
  He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
  from this time onwards and for evermore.
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

SERMON "Thank You"

*HYMN #562 We Will Extol You, God and King

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION & 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.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation

But deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever, Amen.

OFFERTORY Psalm 36:5

*DOXOLOGY #965

Inclusive lyrics: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow

Praise God, all creatures here below

Praise God, above ye heavenly host

Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost

*BENEDICTION

*SENDING SONG #950