

The Service for the Lord's Day

May 23, 2010 11 a.m.

PRELUDE

OPENING PRAYER

CHORAL INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: God is our strength and our refuge

All: A constant help in times of need

One: God is the source of all life, light and love

All: There is one, true God, who made us and loves us.

We belong to God! Let us worship together!

OPENING HYMN: #562 (Gray Hymnal) **Be Thou My Vision**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Section 1: We are a people in exile. We turn from the God who loves us, making our place in a world of questionable integrity. We compromise who God made us to be, until we can hardly recognize ourselves. Help us return to You, God

Section 2: We are a people in exile. We separate ourselves from loved ones and friends, settling into brokenness instead of seeking reconciliation. Help us return to You, God

Section 3. We are a people in exile. We are haves in a have not world, yet we gather and hoard, instead of sharing with, and caring for, those in need. We satisfy our own desires, ignoring the desperation around us. Help us return to You, God.

Section 4. We are a people in exile. We have exiled ourselves to the land of busy-ness and over expectation. We rush and scurry, so overwhelmed that we don't do anything but hang on and survive. Help us return to You, God

All: You are a delivering God. Remind us that we have only to ask, to be welcomed home to You. Hear now the prayers of our hearts...

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

GLORIA PATRI: #577 (Blue Hymnal)

Glory be to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost;

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

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

ANTHEM: **I Will Sing Unto the Lord**

Killion / Martin

Worship Choir

SCRIPTURE READING: Ezra 1:1-5

HYMN OF MEDITATION: #389 (Gray Hymnal) **Spirit of the Living God**

SCRIPTURE READING: Nehemiah 8:1-6

SERMON "What We Can Learn from Water Gate" The Rev. Britta Dukes

PASTORAL PRAYER AND 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERTORY

DOXOLOGY: #815 (Gray Hymnal)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him, all creatures here below.

Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

CLOSING HYMN: #794 (Gray Hymnal) **Let All Things Now Living**

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE: #232 (Gray Hymnal) **God Be With You**

POSTLUDE