Participants:

Message: Mark

Prayer: Mark

Liturgists: Judi, Luke

Piano: Pearl

Title- “A Peculiar People”

**WE BEGIN OUR WORSHIP**

**Welcome** (Mark)

**God’s Greets Us**

**All: Amen**

**Song: Come, Let us Worship and Bow Down, LU 510**

Come, let us worship and bow down,

let us kneel before the Lord, our God, our Maker.

Come, let us worship and bow down,

let us kneel before the Lord, our God, our Maker.

For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture,

and the sheep of his hand, just the sheep of his hand.

*Dave Doherty*

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**Call to Worship**

Brothers and sisters, come and worship!

For we are a chosen people,

royal priests,

a holy nation.

God’s very own family.

Let us proclaim together the goodness of God,

who has called us out of darkness into his marvelous light,

offering sacrifices of worship and praise that are pleasing in his sight.

Let’s worship God together!

**Songs: We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise and I Love You, Lord**

**We bring the sacrifice of praise unto the Lord, our God.**

**We bring the sacrifice of praise unto the Lord, our God.**

**And we offer up to you the sacrifices of thanksgiving,**

**And we offer up to you the sacrifices of praise.**

**We bring the sacrifice of joy unto the Lord, our God.**

**We bring the sacrifice of joy unto the Lord, our God.**

**And we offer up to you the sacrifices of thanksgiving,**

**And we offer up to you the sacrifices of joy.**

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**Song: I Love You, Lord**

**I love You Lord**

**And I lift my voice**

**To worship You**

**O my soul rejoice**

**Take joy my King**

**In what You hear**

**May it be a sweet sweet sound**

**In Your ear.**

*Laurie Klein*

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**GATHERING PRAYER AND A TIME OF CONFESSION**

*(Note: remove the words Reader 1 and Reader 2 on the powerpoint)*

Reader 1: Parent God, Deliverer of our daily bread,

we, your children, come before You

hungry and thirsty for the spiritual nourishment

that only you can provide.

For we have tasted that you are good

and we cannot live without your goodness.

Reader 2: God in Christ,

Cornerstone of our fellowship and faith,

we, your living stones,

come to be built up together

as your house,

to your design.

For we are ready to be chiselled and polished

until we are fit for your present purpose for us.

Reader 1: Forgive us, Gracious God,

For living lives of selfishness,

For forgetting the needs of those who are hurting,

lonely, and hungry in these times of separation.

Reader 2: Living God,

if we have lost the life in us

and become as dry, dull, dead stones,

then forgive us.

Refresh us with water and Spirit

that we may emerge gleaming with your presence

and filled again with a passion for living for you.

Reader 1: Compassionate God,

in the quietness now, we make our personal prayers to you:

our confessions of wrongdoing,

our needs for healing

and our offloading of anything that troubles or burdens us.

Through the silence Lord, hear our prayers.

**[silence]** *(allow about 15 seconds of silence)*

Reader 2: God, whose Spirit interprets our deepest longings,

we praise you for your never-ending and limitless love and mercy.

Now we are ready to feast upon your Word to us today.

In Jesus’ Name we pray. Amen.

*~ adapted from a prayer by Rev Carol Ford*

**Song: Speak, O Lord, LU 755: 1, 2, 3**

Speak, O Lord, as we come to you

to receive the food of your holy Word.

Take your truth, plant it deep in us;

shape and fashion us in your likeness—

that the light of Christ might be seen today

in our acts of love and our deeds of faith.

Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us

all your purposes for your glory.

Teach us, Lord, full obedience,

holy reverence, true humility.

Test our thoughts and our attitudes

in the radiance of your purity.

Cause our faith to rise; cause our eyes to see

your majestic love and authority.

Words of power that can never fail;

let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;

help us grasp the heights of your plans for us.

Truths unchanged from the dawn of time

that will echo down through eternity.

And by grace we’ll stand on your promises,

and by faith we’ll walk as you walk with us.

Speak, O Lord, till your church is built,

and the earth is filled with your glory.

*Keith Getty | Stuart Townend*

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**WE LISTEN TO GOD’S WORD**

**Scripture: 1 Peter 2:4-12**

Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God’s sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture:

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone,

a cornerstone chosen and precious;

and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected

has become the very head of the corner,”

and

“A stone that makes them stumble,

and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Once you were not a people,

but now you are God’s people;

once you had not received mercy,

but now you have received mercy.

Live as Servants of God

Beloved, I urge you as aliens and exiles to abstain from the desires of the flesh that wage war against the soul. Conduct yourselves honorably among the Gentiles, so that, though they malign you as evildoers, they may see your honorable deeds and glorify God when he comes to judge.

**Message: “A Peculiar People”**

**Prayers of the People (**Mark)

**Song of Response: Cornerstone**

**My hope is built on nothing less**

**Than Jesus' blood and righteousness**

**I dare not trust the sweetest frame**

**But wholly trust in Jesus' Name**

***Chorus***

**Christ alone cornerstone**

**Weak made strong in the Saviour's love**

**Through the storm He is Lord**

**Lord of all.**

**When He shall come with trumpet sound**

**Oh may I then in Him be found**

**Dressed in His righteousness alone**

**Faultless stand before the throne.**

***Chorus***

**Christ alone cornerstone**

**Weak made strong in the Saviour's love**

**Through the storm He is Lord**

**Lord of all.**

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**OUR SERVICE IS ENDED**

**God’s Blessing**

**All: Alleluia! Amen**

**Song: Lord, Dismiss Us With Your Blessing, LU 933: 1, 2**

Lord, dismiss us with your blessing;

fill our hearts with joy and peace.

Let us each, your love possessing,

triumph in redeeming grace.

O direct us and protect us

traveling through this wilderness.

Thanks we give and adoration

for your gospel’s joyful sound.

May the fruits of your salvation

in our hearts and lives abound.

Ever faithful, ever faithful

to your truth may we be found.

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