Participants:

Message: Lesli

Prayer: Jane

Song leaders/liturgists: Mark, Judi, Nel

Piano: Pearl

Drums: Luke

Guitar: Mark

**A COMMAND WITH A PROMISE**

**WE BEGIN OUR WORSHIP**

**Welcome** (Nel)

**God Blesses Us (**Lesli**)**

**All: Amen**

**Song: Wisdom Calls, LU 54: 1, 2**

**At the crossroads of decision**

**Wisdom calls to all and each:**

**“Come, my children, learn and listen—**

**heed the ways I seek to teach.”**

**Conscious thoughts or intuition**

**frame her words of grace and peace:**

**“Choose the pathway of the Lord.”**

**On the ash heap of disaster**

**“Where is God?” we cry and weep.**

**Friends are false and faith uncertain;**

**Wisdom seems beyond our reach.**

**Still she whispers from the whirlwind**

**of our pain and of our grief:**

**“Trust the goodness of the Lord.”**

**Call to Worship** (led by Nel)

One: When we stand at the edge of fear and worry,

**All: God invites us to step into the waters of faith and trust**.

One: When we stand at the edge of the world's pain and need,

**All: Jesus invites us to step into the land of humble service**.

One: When we stand at the edge of our hunger and thirst:

**All: the Spirit invites us to sit at the Table of grace.**

One: God gave his people hope as they traveled through the desert.

**All: God gives us the courage to step out in faith**.

One: God is with us wherever we go.

**All: Come, let us worship the Lord**

**Song: Oh, Give Thanks** *(Psalm 107)*

**We were wandering in the desert   
with our souls so starved and weak**

**We were hungry for a homeland**

**We did not know how to seek**

**But we lifted up our voices**

**To the only One who hears**

**And the God of mercy came and brought us near**

**Chorus**

**Oh give thanks to the Lord**

**For His love endures forever**

**We were wandering and lost**

**And our Father brought us home**

**To a safe dwelling place**

**To a feast of joy and laughter**

**Oh give thanks to the Lord for He is good**

**We were far out on the ocean**

**Making wealth and chasing dreams**

**But the waves of great destruction**

**Brought us trembling to our knees**

**And we cried like drunken sailors**

**To the only One who hears**

**And the God of comfort took away our fears**

**Chorus**

**Oh give thanks to the Lord**

**For His love endures forever**

**We were wandering and lost**

**And our Father brought us home**

**To a safe dwelling place**

**To a feast of joy and laughter**

**Oh give thanks to the Lord for He is good**

**Opening Prayer** (Judi)

*(based on Psalm 107)*

God, our guide and our protector,

as we gather today to worship you,

open our minds and souls and hearts,

that we may be inclined to hear the gentle direction

of your spirit in our lives.

Help us follow you as you lead us

to the land you have created for us,

where we may dwell with you and in you. Amen.

*—adapted from a prayer by Robert Blezard*

**Song: O Give the Lord Wholehearted Praise, LU 502: 1, 3, 4**

O give the LORD wholehearted praise.

To him thanksgiving I will bring;

with all his people I will raise

my voice and of his glory sing.

God’s wondrous deeds of faithfulness

his people ever keep in mind.

His works of love and graciousness

reveal that God the LORD is kind.

God’s promise shall forever stand;

he cares for those who trust his word.

Upon his saints his mighty hand

the wealth of nations has conferred.

**WE CONFESS WE NEED GOD’S HELP**

**AND ARE ASSURED OF HIS PROMISES**

**Prayer of Confession** (led by Nel) (solo Lesli)

Let us confess our need of God’s help as we pray:

*Solo: I want Jesus to walk with me.*

*I want Jesus to walk with me.*

*All along my pilgrim journey,*

*Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me*.

We say we want you to walk with us, Lord Jesus. But we are not comfortable with the path that is set before us. We would like a smooth, newly paved road, with clear markings and bright bold signs, telling us what to do; warning us of what lies ahead. But the journey of discipleship is like a rough mountain path. There are rocks, ruts, dust, dirt, holes. There may be wolves or robbers at any turn. We don’t know if we dare to risk discipleship if it means struggle.

*Solo: In my trials, Lord, walk with me.*

*In my trials, Lord, walk with me.*

*When my heart is almost breaking,*

*Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me*

But you have called us to rely on your guidance and direction. You keep reminding us that God has never failed us yet. Yet we confess we forget your promise to lead and guide us.

*Solo: When I’m troubled, Lord, walk with me.*

*When I’m troubled, Lord, walk with me.*

*When my head is bowed in sorrow,*

*Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.*

In our troubles and concerns, Lord, we need your presence and comfort. We have so many fears and anxieties Lord, remind us that we have your strength on which to rely. Remind us that we are recipients of your healing love. Strengthen us. Walk with us, Lord. Lift us high and give us confident strides as we follow your will and your path. AMEN.

**Words of Assurance** (Judi)

People of God, remember what God has promised. You are not alone. God is always with you. You can place your trust in God, for God will not fail you. AMEN

**Song: We Will Remember, Psalms for All Seasons, 77C:1, 2, 3**

***Chorus***

**We will remember we will remember**

**We will remember the works of your hands**

**We will stop and give you praise**

**For great is your faithfulness**

**You're our creator our life sustainer**

**Deliverer our comfort our joy**

**Throughout the ages you've been our shelter**

**Our peace in the midst of the storm**

***Chorus***

**We will remember we will remember**

**We will remember the works of your hands**

**We will stop and give you praise**

**For great is your faithfulness**

**With signs and wonders you've shown your power**

**With precious blood you showed us your grace**

**You've been our helper our liberator**

**The giver of life with no end**

***Chorus***

**We will remember we will remember**

**We will remember the works of your hands**

**We will stop and give you praise**

**For great is your faithfulness**

**When we walk through life's darkest valleys**

**We will look back at all you have done**

**And we will shout our God is good**

**And he is the faithful one**

***Chorus***

**We will remember we will remember**

**We will remember the works of your hands**

**We will stop and give you praise**

**For great is your faithfulness**

**WE LISTEN TO GOD’S WORDS OF PROMISE AND COURAGE**

**Scripture: Joshua 1:1-9**

**God’s Commission to Joshua**

After the death of Moses the servant of the Lord, the Lord spoke to Joshua son of Nun, Moses’ assistant, saying, *“My servant Moses is dead. Now proceed to cross the Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them, to the Israelites. Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given to you, as I promised to Moses. From the wilderness and the Lebanon as far as the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, to the Great Sea in the west shall be your territory. No one shall be able to stand against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will not fail you or forsake you. Be strong and courageous; for you shall put this people in possession of the land that I swore to their ancestors to give them. Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to act in accordance with all the law that my servant Moses commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, so that you may be successful wherever you go. This book of the law shall not depart out of your mouth; you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to act in accordance with all that is written in it. For then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall be successful. I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”*

**Message: A Command with a Promise**

**Prayer**

**WE RESPOND WITH SONG AND PASTORAL PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE**

**Song: Forever, LU 578: 1, 2, 3**

**Give thanks to the Lord**

**Our God and King**

**His love endures forever**

**For he is good he is above all things**

**His love endures forever**

**Sing praise sing praise**

**With a mighty hand**

**And an outstretched arm**

**His love endures forever**

**For the life that's been reborn**

**His love endures forever**

**Sing praise sing praise**

**Sing praise sing praise**

**Chorus**

**Forever God is faithful**

**Forever God is strong**

**Forever God is with us**

**Forever forever**

**From the rising to the setting sun**

**His love endures forever**

**And by the grace of God**

**We will carry on**

**His love endures forever**

**Sing praise sing praise**

**Sing praise sing praise**

**Chorus**

**Forever God is faithful**

**Forever God is strong**

**Forever God is with us**

**Forever forever**

**Prayers of the People** (Jane—recorded)

**WE GO OUT TO SERVE WITH COURAGE**

**God Blesses Us**

**Song: Go, My Children with My Blessing, LU 946: 1, then verse 4 from the SNC version.**

**Go, my children, with my blessing,**

**never alone.**

**Waking, sleeping, I am with you;**

**you are my own.**

**In my love’s baptismal river**

**I have made you mine forever.**

**Go, my children, with my blessing;**

**you are my own**

**I, the Lord, will bless and keep you,**

**And give you peace.**

**I, the Lord, will smile upon you,**

**And give you peace.**

**I, the Lord, will be your Father, Saviour,**

**Comforter, and Brother.**

**Go, my children, I will keep you,**

**And give you peace.**

**####################################################################**

**Wisdom Calls**

*Words: Carol Bechtel, 2102, admin. Faith Alive Resources. Used by permission of OneLicense # A-734795*

*Music (DIVINUM MYSTERIUM) Plainsong mode V*

**Oh, Give Thanks**

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**O Give the Lord Wholehearted Praise**

*Words: Psalter, 1912, alt., P.D.*

*Music: (GERMANY) P.D.*

**I Want Jesus to Walk with Me**

*Words: African American Spiritual*

*Music (SOJOURNER) African American Spiritual P.D.*

**We Will Remember**

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**Go, My Children, with My Blessing**

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