

Faith - Family - Fellowship

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

CONTEMPORARY SERVICE

February 9, 2025 11:05 a.m.

CALL TO WORSHIP Come Now is the Time to Worship Praise Team & Congregation

SONG OF FAITH God Is So Good Praise Team & Congregation

GREETING & PRAYER OF REVIVAL PR

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH A Modern Affirmation PR

SONG OF HOPE How Great Thou Art Praise Team (solo)

NEW DOXLOGY / BLESSING OF THE OFFERING Josh Coley

WORDS OF WISDOM Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 Jerry Wade

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH / THE LORD'S PRAYER Charlie Cathey

WORD OF GOD Romans 12:9-21 Carrie Karns

SPIRITUAL VITAMIN Hold That Door Open: The Door to Authentic Relationships

SONG OF LOVE Change My Heart Oh God Praise Team & Congregation

**GOING FORTH** 

### PRAYER OF REVIVAL

Pastor: Please join me in our Prayer of Revival.

People: Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

#### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - A Modern Affirmation

Leader: Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is the one true church, apostolic and universal,

whose holy faith let us now declare:

People: We believe in God the Father, infinite in wisdom power and love, whose mercy is

over all his works, and whose will is ever directed to his children's good.

We believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of man, the gift of the Father's unfailing grace, the ground of our hope, and the promise of our deliverance from

sin and death.

We believe in the Holy Spirit as the divine presence in our lives, whereby we are kept in perpetual remembrance of the truth of Christ, and find strength and help in time of need.

We believe that this faith should manifest itself in the service of love as set forth in the example of our blessed Lord, to the end that the kingdom of God may come upon the earth. Amen

## WORDS OF WISDOM - Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

The key word in Ecclesiastes is vanity, "the futile emptiness of trying to be happy apart from God." The Preacher (traditionally taken to be Solomon - the wisest, richest, most influential king in Israel's history) looks at life "under the sun" and, from the human perspective, declares it all to be empty. Power, popularity, prestige, pleasure ... nothing can fill the God-shaped void in man's life but God Himself! But once seen from God's perspective, life takes on meaning and purpose, causing Solomon to exclaim, "Eat...drink...rejoice...do good...live joyfully...fear God...keep His commandments!" Skepticism and despair melt away when life is viewed as a daily gift from God.

Allow these words to challenge you to seriously examine the personal relationships that you have in your life.

Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. <sup>10</sup> If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But someone who falls alone is in real trouble. <sup>11</sup> Likewise, two people lying close together can keep each other warm. But how can one be warm alone? <sup>12</sup> A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and conquer. Three are even better, for a triple-braided cord is not easily broken.

May God bless our discernment of His Holy Word.

People: May we ever protect and keep it pure. Amen.

## WORD OF GOD - Romans 12:9-21

Today's scripture lesson comes to us from the Epistle of Paul the Apostle to the Christian Church in Rome. Romans, Paul's greatest work, is placed first among his thirteen letters in the New Testament. While the four Gospels present the words and works of Jesus Christ, Romans explores the significance of Jesus' sacrificial death. Romans is more than a book of theology; it is also a book of practical exhortation. The good news of Jesus Christ is more than facts to be believed; it is also a life to be lived.

Allow these words from chapter twelve to open your heart, mind and soul to God's presence in your life.

Don't just pretend to love others. Really love them. Hate what is wrong. Hold tightly to what is good. Love each other with genuine affection and take delight in honoring each other. Never be lazy but work hard and serve the Lord enthusiastically. Rejoice in our confident hope. Be patient in trouble and keep on praying. When God's people are in need, be ready to help them. Always be eager to practice hospitality.

Bless those who persecute you. Don't curse them; pray that God will bless them. Be happy with those who are happy, and weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with each other. Don't be too proud to enjoy the company of ordinary people. And don't think you know it all! Never pay back evil with more evil. Do things in such a way that everyone can see you are honorable. Do all that you can to live in peace with everyone.

Dear friends, never take revenge. Leave that to the righteous anger of God. For the Scriptures say, "I will take revenge;

I will pay them back," says the Lord.

Instead,

"If your enemies are hungry, feed them.

If they are thirsty, give them something to drink.

In doing this, you will heap

burning coals of shame on their heads."

Don't let evil conquer you but conquer evil by doing good.

This is the word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.