

Prelude: *Wondrous Love*, David Johnson

Welcome

Opening of the Word and Invocation (Psalm 118:24)

Hymn #500

Responsive Reading

Leader: God's Word brought all things into being,

All: And everything speaks of the Divine.

Leader: From the faintest spark of light, to the awesome radiance of the sun,

All: All things are part of the circle of God's glory.

Leader: The sky, the sun, the moon, the shining stars and the clouds,

All: From their appointed places speak of the love of the Most High.

Leader: The dry land, the mountain tops, the rivers, lakes and seas,

All: Are each held in place by God's power.

Leader: The smallest plants, the tallest trees, all creatures great and small,

All: Grow and prosper by the wisdom of God

Leader: How can we find our place in this circle of God's glory?

All: We can be like the rainbow – magnificent and radiant in beauty. We can be bent by the gentle hands of the Most High.

Leader: So come, and be reminded of God's marvelous works. Be at home in your place in the circle.

All: and may we span the horizons of life as reflections of God's love.

Opening Prayer (please kneel, said in unison)

Holy and everliving God, by your power we are created and by your love we are redeemed; guide and strengthen us by your Spirit, that we may give ourselves to your service, and live each day in love to one another and you.

(A New Zealand Prayer Book)

An Affirmation of Worship

We worship God, our loving Lord, who made us; who taught us in the Bible that all people are God's children, and that we should love God and each other. When people turned away from God, he loved us enough to be born in our world as a baby. He grew up and lived the life he wants us to live. Risen now, he is still with us, our Lord and our God, helping us to grow more like him. This is why we know him as our Savior. We are his disciples when we love him, and show our love for him by being kind and helpful to one another.

Readings: Psalm 51: 1, 7, 10-12, 16-17, Luke 18:9-14,
Secrets of Heaven #874

Children's Message

Sermon: Going to Pray

Time of Reflection: *Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song*, Michael Burkhardt

Closing Prayer

Prayer of Gratitude
The Lord's Prayer

Offering: *I Will Sing My Maker's Praises*, Ernst Pepping

Offertory Response (please stand, sung in unison):

**We give Thee but Thine Own, Whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee**

Closing Hymn #909

Benediction (A New Zealand Prayer Book)

Postlude: *In the Garden*, Wilbur Held

