

Prelude: *Duo*, Antonio De Cabezon

Welcome, Opening of the Word and Invocation (Isaiah 40:5)

Hymn #18

Responsive Reading: Psalm 16

Leader: O God, keep me safe—you are my refuge! I said to YHWH, “You are my God; there is nothing good for me apart from you.”

All: *The holy people of my land are wonderful! My greatest pleasure is to be with them. But those who rush after other gods will bring many troubles upon themselves.*

Leader: *I will not take part in their sacrifices; I won't even speak the names of their gods.*

All: *You, O Lord, are all I have, you are my food and drink. My life is safe in your hands.*

Leader: *Within the boundaries you set for me there are nothing but pleasant places! What a delightful inheritance I have!*

All: *I praise the Lord, who guides me; even at night my heart teaches me.*

Leader: *I'm always aware of your presence; you are right by my side and nothing can shake me.*

All: *My heart is happy and my tongue sings for joy; I feel completely safe with you.*

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:

2 Samuel 23:1-7

True Christianity #439 and #440

Children's Message

Sermon: Being the Brightness After Rain

Time of Reflection: *Urbs Beata*, Plainsong

Closing Prayer

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer

Closing Hymn #710

Benediction (A New Zealand Prayer Book)

Postlude: *Now Thank We All Our God*, Johann Walther

— *The End of Worship and the Beginning of Service* —