

Prelude: *Comfort Ye My People*, Georg Bohem

Welcome, Opening of the Word and Invocation

Hymn #802

Responsive Reading (from the Iona Abbey Worship Book)

Leader: *O God, for your love for us, warm and brooding, which has brought us to birth and opened our eyes to the wonder of creation.*

All: *We give you thanks.*

Leader: For your love for us, wild and freeing, which has awakened us to the energy of creation: to the sap that flows, the blood that pulses, the hearts that sings.

All: *We give you thanks.*

Leader: *For your love for us, compassionate and patient, which has carried us through our pain, wept beside us in our sin, and waited with us in our confusion.*

All: *We give you thanks.*

Leader: *For your love for us, strong and challenging, which has called us to risk for you, asked for the best in us, and shown us how to serve.*

All: *We give you thanks.*

Leader: O God, we come to celebrate that your Holy Spirit is present deep within us, and at the heart of all life.

All: *Forgive us when we forget your gift of love, and draw us into your presence.*

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:

1 Samuel 2:1-10

Luke 1:46-55

True Christianity 394 and 395(3)

Children's Message

Sermon: A Necessary Upheaval

Time of Reflection

Closing Prayer

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer

Closing Hymn #818

Benediction

Postlude: *Prepare the Way, O Zion*, 17th century Swedish Melody.

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

