

**Prelude:** *Irish Tune from County Derry*, Percy Grainger

**Welcome**

**Opening of the Word and Invocation** (Matthew 18:20)

**Hymn #419**

**Responsive Reading**

Leader: *Living God, our loving parent: you cherish your creation*

**All: and we praise you.**

Leader: *With earth, air, water, fire: in our element as your children,*

**All: we praise you.**

Leader: *With our lips, with our lives, in all our diversity, each one made in your image,*

**All: we praise you.**

Leader: *Because, in Jesus, you came to share our human lives, our sorrow and joy,*

**All: we praise you.**

Leader: *Poor as we are, you give us hope: salt of the earth, you give us meaning and purpose*

**All: and we praise you. Amen.**

(Iona Abbey Worship Book)

**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 103:1-2, 13-14, 20-22, 2 Kings 6:8-17  
Secrets of Heaven #5992:1,3

**Children's Message**

**Sermon:** Those Who Are With Us

**Time of Reflection:** *O Dearest Jesus*, Helmut Walcha

**Closing Prayer**

Prayer of Gratitude (Iona Abbey Worship Book)  
The Lord's Prayer

**Offering:** *The Coming*, William Moon

**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:** Open My Eyes That I May See (see handout)

**Benediction** (Ruth Burgess)

**Postlude:** *Open My Eyes, That I May See*, Emma Lou Diemer