

July 18, 2021

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## Gathering

# Opening Prayer

**O loving God,** To turn away from You is to fall, To turn toward You is to rise, And to stand before You is to abide forever. Grant us, dear God, In all our duties Your help; In all our uncertainties Your guidance; In all our dangers Your protection; And in all our sorrows Your peace; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

-Augustine of Hippo

Hymn

Seek Ye First

### Call to Confession

Unison Confession (from Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand)

O God, who sent gifts of the Holy Spirit to those first saints, we know You continue to send gifts to us, even though we do not claim them. We confess that we have not always opened our gifts. We have often chosen to keep them packed away or buried.

Move us, by Your Spirit, to pick up our presents, that You so freely give, to open them and to spend them lavishly on the stewardship of Your world.

We confess to You how often our thoughts and motives are confused, both individually and when we are together as Your people, and that this confusion has often blinded us to Your interest in our lives.

Break in on our confusion, and astonish us anew, O God! Our prayer is that You will claim us again and silence within us our desire to always have words for every occasion, that we might hear the whisper of the wings of Your Spirit dove.

In the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

#### Assurance of Pardon

One: God's love is beyond our imagination and greater than any sin we commit. Today forgiveness is available to you in Jesus name, Amen.

Hymn

#### Jesus Be With Us

### Pastoral Prayer / Lord's Prayer

All: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Passing of the Peace Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you. People: And also with you!

#### Scripture

I Corinthians 12:12-31a

Sermon

Hymn

We Will Go Out With Joy

Pastor Erin

Blessing