

Prelude

Lighting of the Altar Candles

Jiwon Yim

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship

Richard Rice: We gather to pray.

Many Voices: We gather to praise.

Richard Rice: May our prayers extend beyond ourselves.

Many Voices: May our praise rise to the heavens.

Richard Rice: May our lives be salty with love.

Many Voices: May our prayers be reflections of peace.

*Opening Hymn

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

UMH #127

Passing the Peace

Opening Prayer

Richard Rice: Faithful God, inspire us to be faithful to one another. Open our hearts to meet the needs in our midst and in the wider world. Open our minds to notice the beauty and gift of your creation. Open our mouths to sing your blessings, joyfully and gratefully. Open our lives to welcome the stranger, seek the lost, and create peace in a troubled world.

All: Amen!

Blessing Our Children

Pastor Dave

Offering Ourselves

Blessing our Gifts with Music

*Doxology

*Offering Prayer

All: Gracious God, we dedicate these offerings to your service, inspired by Esther's wisdom and courage. Just as she sought deliverance and found grace, may our gifts bring hope and relief to those in need. Guide us to use these resources to promote justice, mercy, and compassion in our community. May we always act with gratitude and wisdom, recognizing your providence in all we do. Bless these gifts and those who give them so that, together, we may reflect your love and grace in the world. In Christ, our savior and redeemer, we pray. Amen.

Scripture Readings

Old Testament Lesson

Esther 7:1-6, 9-10 (NRSVUE)

Gospel Lesson

Mark 9:38-41 (NRSVUE)

Richard Rice: The Word of God for the People of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Responsive Song

"His Eye Is on the Sparrow"

TFWS #2146

Proclaiming

"Esther's Courage"

Pastor Dave

Joys and Concerns

Text Pastor Dave (224.600.0446) with your prayer requests or give him a note before worship service.

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer

***Closing Hymn**

"O Jesus, I Have Promised"

UMH #396

Benediction

Postlude