

## Music to Prepare Our Hearts

## Lighting of the Altar Candles

## Welcome and Announcements

### \*Call to Worship

**Dianne Marcell:** Give thanks to God,

**Many Voices:** for God's steadfast love lasts forever.

**Dianne Marcell:** God accompanies us in our distress,

**Many Voices:** as we cross the threshold to worship's blessings.

**Dianne Marcell:** Give thanks to our God,

**Many Voices:** for God's steadfast love abides with us.

**Dianne Marcell:** Let us enter this space for worship,

**Many Voices:** celebrating God's works for humankind.

**\*Opening Hymn**      "How Firm a Foundation" (*verses 1,2 & 4*)

UMH #529

### \*Passing the Peace

### Opening Prayer

**Dianne Marcell:** O God of promise, creator of the cosmos, you are the first light breaking through the void, and the final light we shall eternally enjoy. Keep our hearts ever vigilant as we wait to welcome you, that you would find us clothed in love, dressed for action, and eager to receive you.

**All: Amen.**

### Offering Ourselves

Blessing our Gifts with Music

\*Doxology

\*Offering Prayer

**All: Faithful and Gracious God, you have called us to be a people of hope, to trust in what we cannot see. As we bring these gifts before you, we offer not only our resources but also our faith -- faith that you are at work in our giving, building a future of justice, mercy, and love. Bless these offerings, that they may be signs of our longing for your kingdom and our trust in your promises. May our generosity inspire others to live with courage and conviction, seeking that better country you have prepared for us. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.**

### Scripture Readings

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 1:11-18 (*CEB*)

Gospel Lesson

Luke 12:32-40 (*CEB*)

**Dianne Marcell:** The Word of God for the People of God.

**Many Voices:** Thanks be to God.

**Responsive Song**      "Wounded World that Cries for Healing"

TFWS #2177

**Proclaiming**      **"No One Knows When Jesus Will Return"**

Pastor Dave

**Praying**

Joys & Concerns

Prayers for the People

Lord's Prayer

**\*Closing Hymn**

"O Day of God, Draw Nigh"

UMH #730

**\*Dismissal with Blessing**

**Going Forth to the World**