

WORSHIP ELEMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER 10, 2023

Words of Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Responsive Call to Worship

Scripture teaches us that a true summary of the law is LOVE,
love of God and love of all people.

Our Lord Jesus said:

**You shall love the Lord your God
with all your heart,
and with all your soul,
and with all your mind.**

This is the first commandment.

And a second is like it:

You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

**On these two commandments
hang all the law and the prophets.**

We come to worship, remembering our own shortcomings and knowing that whenever we seek to correct each other, this must be done with humility, with empathy and with love.

Let us worship the Lord our God.

Hymn: “Give Praise to the Lord”
(Psalm 149)

GTG 550

Call to Confession

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we freely confess our sin, our God of steadfast love and mercy will forgive us put clean hearts within us. Let us confess our shortcomings to God using the unison prayer of confession.

Prayer of Confession

**Merciful God,
you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you.
We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy.
We have not loved you with a pure heart,
nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves.
We have not done justice, loved kindness,
or walked humbly with you, our God.**

**Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving kindness.
In your great compassion,
cleanse us from our sin.
Create in us a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within us.
Do not cast us from your presence,
or take your Holy Spirit from us.
Restore to us the joy of your salvation
and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit. AMEN**

Assurance of Pardon

Our Lord Jesus, who lived among the people as one fully human, understands and is eager to forgive those who have confessed their weakness or neglect in failing to follow God's law. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, that we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

Passing of the Peace

With the joy of God's forgiven people, let us reflect that joy by remaining in our places and offering a sign of God's peace to those around us.

Response

[Please insert a couple verses of a song traditionally used by your congregation at this point].

Call to Offering

Prayer for Illumination

As we hear, read and sing your Word today, dear God, may your Spirit lead us to know and understand your will for us. Amen.

The Hebrew Scripture Psalm 149:1-9

The Gospel Matthew 18:15-20

The Message “Rescuing Lost Sheep”

Rev. Jay Summerville

Hymn “Jesu, Jesu, Fill us with Your Love”

GTG 203

Unison Affirmation of Faith

**We believe that there is no condemnation
for those who are in Christ Jesus;
and we know that in everything God works for good
with those who love him,
who are called according to his purpose.
We are sure that neither death, nor life,
nor angels, nor principalities,
nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us
from the love of God
in Christ Jesus our Lord. AMEN**

(From Romans 8:1,28,38, 39)

Prayers of the People

**[After each specific intercession spoken by the pastor, he will
Say, “Let us pray to the Lord” and the congregation should
Respond by saying “Lord, have mercy”]**

Lord’s Prayer

Hymn “Lord Dismiss Us With Your Blessing”

GTG 546

Sending and Benediction

Postlude