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## GATHERING

**OPENING VOLUNTARY***Partita on "Wer nur den lieben Gott"*

Georg Böhm

*As the voluntary begins, let the time and the music help to center you for worship.***WELCOME AND LIFE IN THE CHURCH**

Rev. Johnson

**\* CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Though the storm clouds of doubt and fear threaten to overcome us,

**All: God leads us into ways of peace.**

One: When the darkness of life and the deep pit of anger reach toward us,

**All: God lifts and carries us through the darkness with hope and light.**

One: Lord of hope and life, be with us today.

**All: God of mercy and peace, lead our lives.****\* HYMN 612***We Praise You, O God*

KREMSER

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION****Wondrous God, we confess that at times our doubts and fears override our hope and faith.****Forgive us when we lose sight of the joy of your love and instead fall into despair and gloom.****Lift up our spirits, Lord, and help us to remember the promise of new life here and now,  
not just the hope of resurrection for the future.****We give thanks for your Son, Jesus the Christ, who continues to offer us new life,****who continues to turn us around and upside down, who continues to break down the walls of death in our own life.****Forgive us, restore us and renew us. In Christ Jesus, we pray. . .****SILENT CONFESSION****ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS****\* PASSING OF THE PEACE****\* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE****We've come this far by faith, leaning on the Lord, trusting in the holy Word; God's never failed us yet.****O, can't turn around, we've come this far by faith. We've come this far by faith.***This is Hymn 656, We've Come This Far by Faith.***PROCLAIMING****PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION****FIRST SCRIPTURE READING**

Isaiah 43:1–15

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.****SECOND SCRIPTURE READING**

Romans 8:18–30

The grass withers; the flower fades—

**the word of our God endures forever.****SERMON***Living in the Liminal*

Rev. Ruhf

## RESPONDING

\* HYMN 816

*If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee*

WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT

### OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Offertory

*Prelude on "Wer nur den lieben Gott"*

Johann Ludwig Krebs

\* Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here below;  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

\* Prayer of Dedication

### SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

*See Communion Card*

## SENDING

\* HYMN 166

*Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days*

ST. FLAVIAN

\* BENEDICTION

\* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

**He came from heaven's throne  
salvation to bestow;  
the world that was his own  
would not its Savior know.  
But O my Friend,  
my Friend indeed,  
who at my need  
his life did spend!**

*This is stanza 2 of Hymn 209, My Song Is Love Unknown.*

\* CLOSING VOLUNTARY

*Chorale Prelude on "Wer nur den lieben Gott"*

Johann Sebastian Bach

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\* *Please rise in body or spirit.*

Those parts of the service of worship in which the congregation participates in word or song are noted in bold type. Large-print bulletins and hymnals are available from the ushers.