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Words of Welcome

Rev. Laura Ann Phillips

THE GATHERING – We Enter into God's Presence

Sharing Christ's Peace

Rev. Laura Ann Phillips and Rev. Chuck Pickrel

Gathering in the Light

Prelude to Worship

"Take My Life and Let It Be" arr. Victor Labenske

Julie Dean, piano

\*Invitation to Worship

Emerson Hartzler

one: Trusting in Jesus, we imagine a world with more!

all: We imagine a world with more of what really matters.

one: We are invited to learn the limitless ways God's love reaches into the world.

all: Community and compassion; these are the ways we know God's love.

one: In our worship, let us adopt God's ways as our own.

all: Hope and justice; these, too, are ways we know God's love.

one: Let us work for beauty, as co-creators to resurrection.

all: In our worship, let us adopt God's limitless ways as our own.

\*Opening Hymn "Lord, You Give the Great Commission" Chalice Hymnal #459

Invocation Emerson Hartzler

Prayer Response "The Loving Kindness Song"

THE WORD – We Receive God's Word

Prayer of Illumination "Be Still" Rev. Laura Ann Phillips

Scripture Matthew 25:31-45 (New Revised Standard Version updated edition) Theresa Krebs

Sermon "Imagine a World with More Compassion" Rev. Laura Ann Phillips

Special Music "The Basin and the Towel" by Michael Card Teresa Phillips

## THE RESPONSE – We Respond in Worship

Prayers of the People Rev. Chuck Pickrel

Our Lord's Prayer

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.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Response in Song "When the Poor Ones" Chalice Hymnal #662

Invitation to Stewardship Week of Compassion Theresa Krebs

If you would like to support the ministries of Overland Park Christian Church and all the ways

we are "being church" even now, you can visit our website, www.opccdoc.org to give online,

or you may mail your check to our building at 7600 West 75th Street, Overland Park, KS 66204.

\*Doxology "For the Fruit of All Creation" Chalice Hymnal #714

Celebration of Communion

Communion Response "I'm Gonna Eat at the Welcome Table" Chalice Hymnal #424

## **SENDING FORTH** – We Go Out into the World

Blessing of the Backpacks

Rev. Chuck Pickrel

all: Loving God, hold us and our prayers.

one: We say a special prayer for parents, as the start of a new school year is always another leap of faith. Wrap them with your reassuring love as they entrust their children and trust in you. When questions remain unanswered, and the realm of control is finite, bless them with peace and the promise you are right there with their child, whether heading to preschool or driving to college.

all: Loving God, hold us and our prayers.

one: We also pray now for teachers, staff and administrators. Bless these faithful servants with courage and confidence, knowing you are in their classroom with a steady hand on their shoulder. Give them peace, patience, and balance in the pressures they face, and bravery to build structures and systems which justly serve all your children. Give them delight in the young ones before them, and recognition of the sweet ways children are also teachers.

all: Loving God, hold us and our prayers.

one: We pray for health and wholeness, fun and growth, surprise and amazement, for this school year ahead, knowing you will hold us all the way through.

all: We thank you, God, and love you. Amen.

Invitation to Discipleship Rev. Chuck Pickrel

\*Closing Song "Jump, Jump, Jump"

\*Blessing and Benediction Rev. Laura Ann Phillips

\*Postlude "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name" arr. Carol Tornguist Julie Dean, piano

## Acknowledgements and permissions:

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