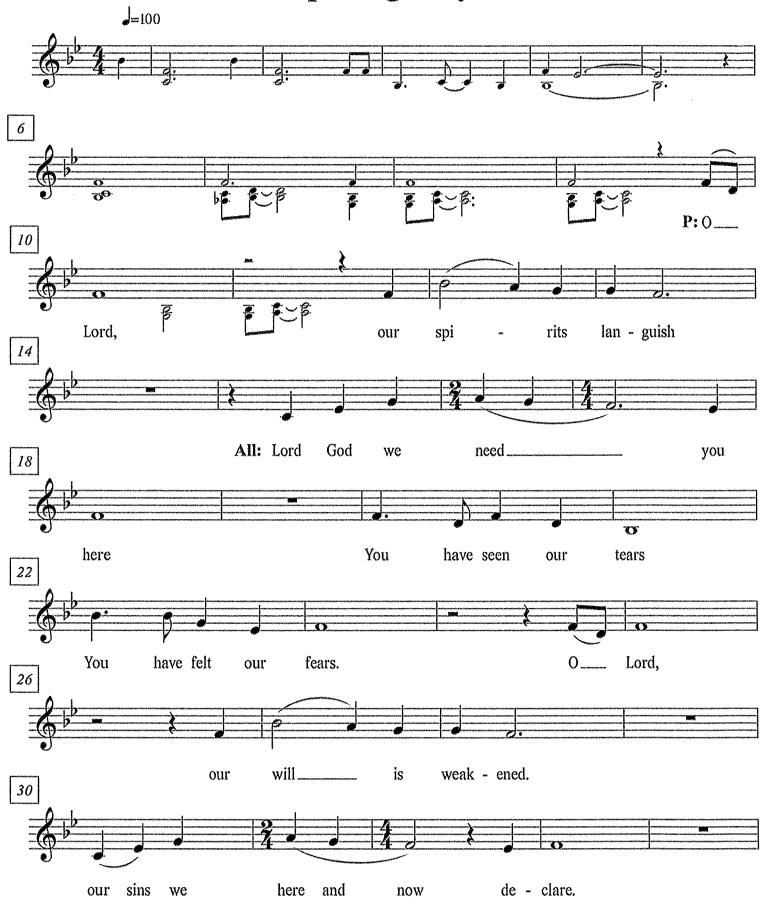
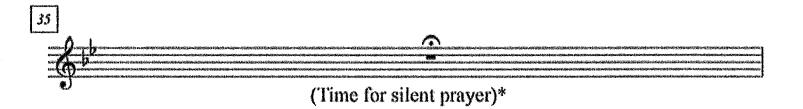
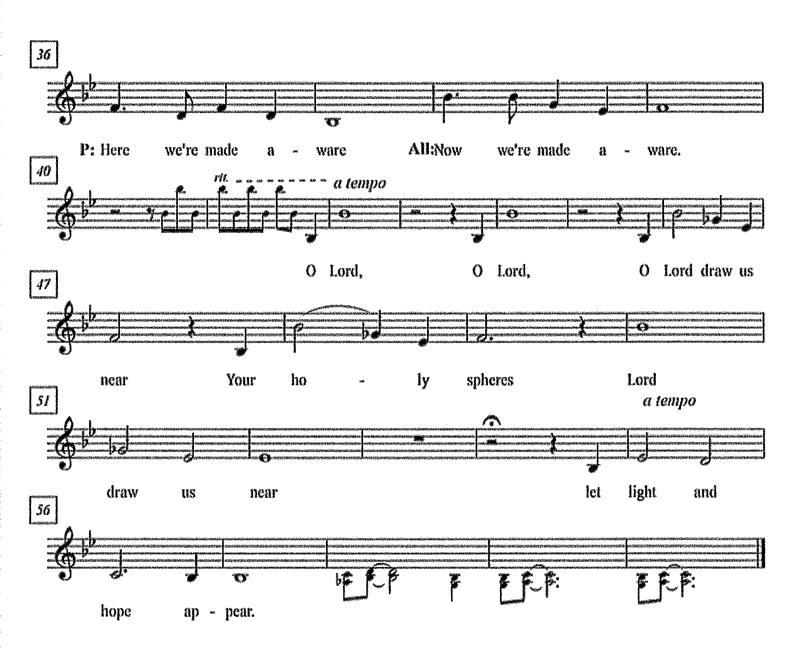
# Candlelight Service May 1, 2025



# **Opening Prayer**







\* a suggested prayer for silent reflection and confession:

"Most merciful God, I confess that I am captive to sin and cannot free myself. I have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what I have done and by what I have left undone. I have not kept your commandments to love you with my whole heart and to love my neighbors as myself. I bring these things to you (), seeking your forgiveness and guiding hand.

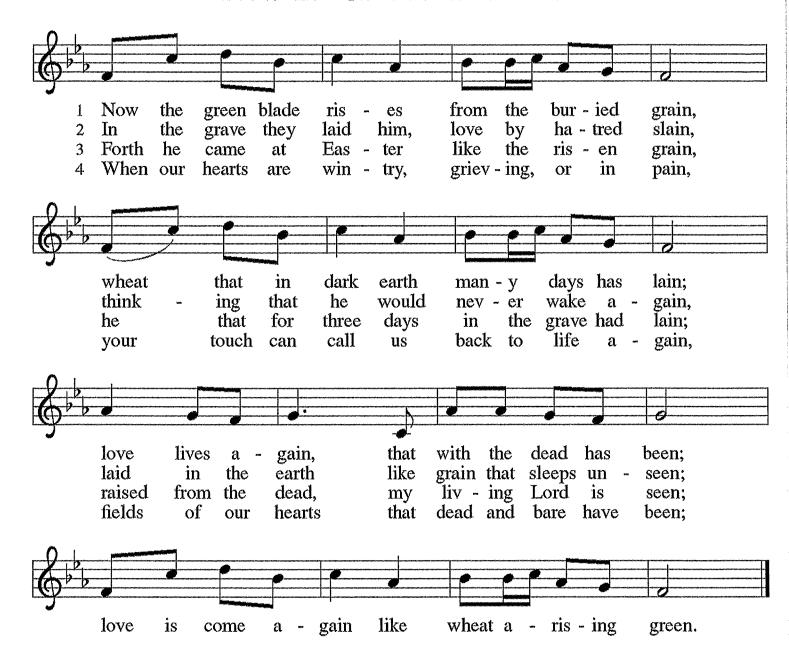


## **Absolution and Promise**



#### **OPENING HYMN**

## Now the Green Blade Rises



Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872-1958

Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol

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#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

**ALL:** Almighty God, as we gather this day, we recognize that Your Word is like a seed, a powerful force for growth and change. We open our hearts to receive this precious seed, that it may take root and flourish, bearing fruit that pleases You. Grant us the grace to be good soil, nurturing Your Word in our lives, that we may grow in faith, love, and service to You. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

**READINGS AND REFLECTION** 

**Pastor Gretchen Anderson** 

(Two minutes of silence)

A bell will mark the beginning, the middle and the end of this time.

May God guide your thoughts and bless your meditations.

#### **HYMN OF THE DAY**

## Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil

Lord, let my heart be good soil,
open to the seed of your word.
Lord, let my heart be good soil,
where love can grow and peace is understood.
When my heart is hard, break the stone away.
When my heart is cold, warm it with the day.
When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.
Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart,
Lord, let my heart be good soil.

Lord, let my heart be good soil
Open to the seed of your word
Lord, let my heart be good soil
A space where faith and hope takes root and grows
When a need is known roll away the stone.
When my faith's mislaid be my Guide and Aide.
When another's need must overtake my own,
Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart
Lord, let my heart become soil.

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#### **OFFERING**

(As a spiritual discipline, ask the Holy Spirit to nudge you in offering yourself and a portion of God's many blessings God has given you for God's use in the church and world. A collection plate is available in the narthex of the church. To support the ministries during this pandemic time and as a response to God's love for you, consider using electronic giving at www.trchurch.org/electronic-giving.)

#### PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

PASTOR ENDS EACH PETITION WITH: We trust you, help us trust you more YOUR RESPONSE: And we thank you that you hear us as we pray for one and all.

# Prayers of the Church



#### HOLY COMMUNION

Pastor: Tonight we affirm and proclaim in the words of institution the truth ... One body. One cup. One Body of Christ. Please look for those responses within the breaking of the bread and sharing of the cup.

#### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

(A note about Holy Communion: Communion will be distributed to you where you sit. There is one cup divided with a small wafer on one end and the wine on the other. Instructions will be provided for each step.)

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

All: One body.

P: Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

All: One cup.

P: Holy God, reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world, equipped to embody justice, peace and love.

All: One Body.

### LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

PASTOR: Remove the foil and receive ... the Body of Christ for you Remove the foil and receive ... the Blood of Christ for you

## Benediction





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