

Peace UCC  
November 8, 2020

**Prelude** "Processional" Franklin D. Ashdown  
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**Welcome**

**Opening Words** *adapted* Mary Sue Gast

One: The Spirit of God calls to us, with sighs too deep for words.  
The Spirit of God calls to us, claiming us,  
Summoning us to become more than we now are.  
Calling us by name. Each one of us: God's children.

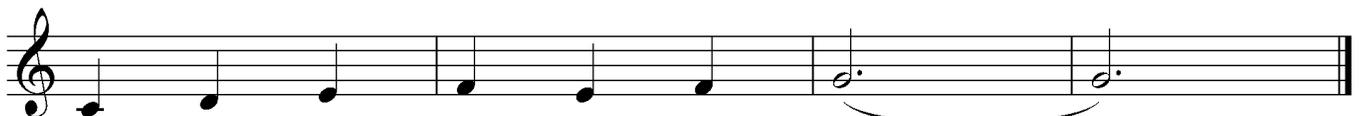
**Opening Response** NCH #32 "God of the Sparrow" Tune: Roeder



God of the spar - row God of the whale God of the swirl - ing  
God of the hun - gry God of the sick God of the prod - i -  
God of the neigh - bor God of the foe God of the prun - ing  
God of the a - ges God near at hand God of the lov - ing



stars \_\_\_\_\_ How does the crea - ture say Awe \_\_\_\_\_  
gal \_\_\_\_\_ How does the crea - ture say Care \_\_\_\_\_  
hook \_\_\_\_\_ How does the crea - ture say Love \_\_\_\_\_  
heart \_\_\_\_\_ How do your chil - dren say Joy \_\_\_\_\_



How does the crea - ture say Praise \_\_\_\_\_  
How does the crea - ture say Life \_\_\_\_\_  
How does the crea - ture say Peace \_\_\_\_\_  
How do your chil - dren say Home. \_\_\_\_\_

**Invocation** Margaret Gay MacKinnon Godfrey

**Holy Spirit of God, who gathers the church into one body, gather us once again in your presence and strengthen the bonds of affection that hold your people together. Bless us with grace to cooperate with one another in love and service that we may be the signs of your uniting love to our fractured world. Teach us to show compassion for those in need, to face challenges with imagination, and to counter disappointments with prayerful trust. So may your church bring forth your will and your reign. Amen**

Reading

Joshua 3:7-17

The Holy One said to Joshua, 'This day I will begin to exalt you in the sight of all Israel, so that they may know that I will be with you as I was with Moses. You are the one who shall command the priests who bear the ark of the covenant, "When you come to the edge of the waters of the Jordan, you shall stand still in the Jordan."' Joshua then said to the Israelites, 'Draw near and hear the words of the Holy One your God.' Joshua said, 'By this you shall know that among you is the living God who without fail will drive out from before you the Canaanites, Hittites, Hivites, Perizzites, Gergashites, Amorites, and Jebusites: the ark of the covenant of the Lord of all the earth is going to pass before you into the Jordan. So now select twelve men from the tribes of Israel, one from each tribe. When the soles of the feet of the priests who bear the ark of the Lord, the Lord of all the earth, rest in the waters of the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan flowing from above shall be cut off; they shall stand in a single heap.'

When the people set out from their tents to cross over the Jordan, the priests bearing the ark of the covenant were in front of the people. Now the Jordan overflows all its banks throughout the time of harvest. So when those who bore the ark had come to the Jordan, and the feet of the priests bearing the ark were dipped in the edge of the water, the waters flowing from above stood still, rising up in a single heap far off at Adam, the city that is beside Zarethan, while those flowing towards the sea of the Arabah, the Dead Sea, were wholly cut off. Then the people crossed over opposite Jericho. While all Israel were crossing over on dry ground, the priests who bore the ark of the covenant of the Holy One stood on dry ground in the middle of the Jordan, until the entire nation finished crossing over the Jordan.

For the wisdom contained in these words we give thanks. Amen.

Sermon Rev. Wendy Bruner

Hymn NCH #18 "Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer" Tune: CWM Rhondda

Guide me, O my great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this  
O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, where the heal - ing  
When I reach the Riv - er Jor - dan bid my anx - ious  
bar - ren land; I am weak, but you are might - y;  
wa - ters flow. Let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar  
fears sub - side. Death of death, and res - ur - rec - tion,  
hold me with your power - ful hand. Bread of heav - en,  
lead me all my jour - ney through. Strong de liv - erer,  
land me safe on heav - en's side. Songs of prais - es,  
bread of heav - en, feed me till I want no more,  
strong de - liv - erer, ev - er be my strength and shield,  
songs of prais - es, I will ev - er sing to you,  
feed me till I want no more.  
ev - er be my strength and shield.  
I will ev - er sing to you.

