

## GATHERING MUSIC

## WELCOME

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## CENTERING PRAYER

## PRELUDE AND BRINGING IN THE LIGHT

## CALL TO WORSHIP

*This is the Day*

# 657

## PRAYER FOR GRADUATES

## OPENING HYMN

*Open My Eyes, That I May See*

#454

## TIME OF PRAYER

Called to proclaim repentance, we are reluctant to look at our own failings. Invited to witness to God's loving forgiveness of sins, we would rather not speak aloud of our own. Let us trust in the One who offers us hope and healing, as we pray together, saying,

**You call us to proclaim a gospel we find difficult to practice, God Most High. We watch our clocks to make sure we spend more time with ourselves than with you. We are hesitant to witness to your power from on high, as we are uncertain of your presence in our lives.**

**Forgive us, God of Light. Fill us with the healing presence of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your good news, as we participate in the life and suffering of our world, as did your Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.** *Time for silent prayer*

Choosing to set aside judgment, God gives us justice; choosing to let go of punishment, God fills us with peace; choosing to release anger, God's steadfast love rests upon us.

**Forgiven, redeemed, restored—we will tell everyone, through the lives we lead, what God has done for us. Thanks be to God. Amen.<sup>1</sup>**

## TIME WITH CHILDREN

## SCRIPTURE FOR THE DAY

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26; Psalm 1; 1 John 5:9-13; John 17:6-19

## REFLECTION

## HYMN OF RESPONSE

*I Want Jesus to Walk With Me*

# 521

## DEDICATION OF GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

Loving God of both comfort and challenge; we have been blessed to know the feeling of being surrounded in your loving arms like a child. Yet we also know that is not a place we can stay. You send us to be part of the world – with all its ugliness, anger, hate, deceit, and betrayals – but not of the world. You call us to give, so that love, compassion, and hope might be set loose. We are not giving as those who are of the world – expecting to receive in the transaction. We give instead out of gratitude for your loving heart, made known to us in Christ. Use us in this way, we pray in the blessed name of Christ, who by your love overcame death.<sup>2</sup>We pray together as Jesus taught, Our Father... (Lord's Prayer). Amen.

## BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH

## POSTLUDE

<sup>1</sup>Thom Schuman<sup>2</sup>Discipleship Resources

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This is the day, **this is the day.**  
That the Lord has made, **that the Lord has made.**  
Let us rejoice, **let us rejoice,**  
And be glad in it, **and be glad in it.**  
**This is the day that the Lord has made.**  
**We will rejoice and be glad in it.**  
This is the day, **this is the day**  
**That the Lord has made.**

## Open My Eyes That I may See

Open my eyes, that I may see  
Glimpses of truth thou hast for me;  
Place in my hands the wonderful key  
That shall unclasp and set me free

Silently now I wait for thee  
Ready, my God, thy will to see  
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my ears, that I may hear  
Voices of truth thou sendest clear;  
And while the wavenotes fall on my ear  
Everything false will disappear

Silently now I wait for thee  
Ready, my God, thy will to see  
Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my mouth, and let me bear  
Gladly the warm truth everywhere;  
Open my heart and let me prepare  
Love with thy children thus to share

Silently now I wait for thee  
Ready, my God, thy will to see  
Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit divine!

## I Want Jesus to Walk With Me

I want Jesus to walk with me  
I want Jesus to walk with me  
All along my pilgrim journey  
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me

In my trial, Lord, walk with me  
In my trials, Lord, walk with me  
When my heart is almost breaking  
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me

When I'm troubled, Lord walk with me  
When I'm troubled, Lord walk with me  
When my head is bowed in sorrow,  
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me