PRELUDE His Eye Is On the Sparrow Music by Charles H. Gabriel Arranged by Mark Hayes-GlorySound © 1998

WORDS OF WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP From Psalm 16

Come, bless the Lord, in whom we find our refuge and safety. You are our God; all the good things come from You alone. Come, bless the Lord, who gives us a rich inheritance, and surrounds us with abundance. You are our God; our lives are in your hands. Come, bless the Lord, who guides us on the path to eternal life, whose presence strengthens and sustains us.

You are our God; we will not be shaken. Let's worship God together!

> OPENING SONG We Are Singing FWS 2235

A TIME OF PRAYER

SCRIPTURE READING Mark 13:1-8

As he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!"² Then Jesus asked him, "Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down." ³ When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, ⁴ "Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?" ⁵ Then Jesus began to say to them, "Beware that no one leads *you astray.* ⁶*Many will come in my* name and say, 'I am he!' and they will lead many astray. ⁷ When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come.⁸ For nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs.

THE MESSAGE Birth Pangs

CELEBRATING OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, Always and everywhere to give thanks to you . . . And so, with your people on earth, and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn: Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the One who comes In the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest! Holy are you, and blessed is your Son, Jesus Christ As we proclaim the *mystery of faith:* Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again. Pour out your Holy Spirit ... All honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Receiving of the Bread and Cup $% \mathcal{A}$

CLOSING SONG Marching to Zion UMH 733, Verses 1, 3 and 4

SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE Standing On the Promises by R. Kelso Carter Arranged by Darrell V Archer Mel Bay Publications, Inc. © 1984

We Are Singing Words & Music: South African (20th cent.); adapt. by Hal H. Hopson

Marching to Zion Words: Isaac Watts, 1707; refrain by Robert Lowry, 1867; Music: Robert Lowry, 1867

All Songs - One License A-719583

WELCOME TO ALL

Who hope for a better world & all who have lost hope:

Believers and seekers Conventional Christians & questioning skeptics

Women, men, youth and children

Of all sexual orientations & gender identities

Of all races and cultures,

Of all income levels

Of all social classes

Of all physical & mental abilities.

COME AS YOU ARE ...

YOU ARE WELCOME!

Sparta United Methodist Church

71 Sparta Avenue Sparta, New Jersey www.spartaumc.org



Service of Worship with Holy Communion

Sunday, November 17, 2024

8:45 AM