PRELUDE Ich glaub an Gott (To Jesus Christ Our Sovereign King) Setting by Bob Moore; Birnamwood Publications © 2019

## WORDS OF WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 37:3-7 (adapted)

Trust in the LORD and do good; live in the land and enjoy security. Take delight in the LORD, and God will give you the desires of your heart.

Commit your way to and trust in the LORD; and God will act, making your vindication shine like the light and the justice of your cause like the noonday. **Be still before the LORD, and wait patiently; do not fret over those who prosper in their way or over those who carry out evil devices.** For God is our refuge and strength.

> OPENING SONG Morning Has Broken UMH 145

A TIME OF PRAYER

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 6: 27-38

"But I say to you who are listening: Love your enemies; do good to those who hate you; bless those who curse you; pray for those who mistreat you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who ask of you, and if anyone takes away what is yours, do not ask for it back again. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

"If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you expect to receive payment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again.

Instead, love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. "Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap, for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

> THE MESSAGE *Measure for Measure*

#### 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

CLOSING SONG Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing UMH 671

## SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE Hyfrydol (Love Divine, All Loves Excelling) Music by Rowland Hugh Prichard, written in 1830 Text by Charles Wesley; Setting by Bob Moore, Birnamwood Publications © 2019

Morning Has Broken Words: Eleanor Farjeon, 1931; Music: Trad. Gaelic melody; harm. by Carlton R. Young, 1988

Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing Words: Attr. to John Fawcett, 1773; Music: The European Magazine and Review, 1792; harm. from The Methodist Hymn and Tune Book, 1889, alt.

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, February 23, 2025

8:45 AM