

✠ SONGS OF PRAISE

*Hear Our Praises
Open the Eyes of My Heart*

Reuben Morgan
Paul Baloche

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)

Holy God, you came to us in human form. You lived as we live. You suffered as we suffer. You died a humiliating and painful death on our behalf. You rose again to give us new life. Nonetheless, we choose to be mired in the quicksand of our lives, refusing to receive the grace and assurance you offer that would free us from our self-imposed bonds. Free us, O God, so that we may see your kingdom and offer it to our world. We await the breath and fire of the Holy Spirit, so that we may begin life anew and continue the work we receive from you and inherit from your disciples.

PERSONAL CONFESSION . . .

. . . Amen.



ASSURANCE OF PARDON

✠ RESPONSE OF THANKSGIVING

Awesome God

Rich Mullins

✠ MOMENT OF FELLOWSHIP

CHILDREN'S TIME

Dismissal to Growing in God's Love (GIGL)

✠ SONG OF INSPIRATION

I Will Never Be

(Please pass Prayer Requests to the aisle for the ushers to pick up and bring forward)

Geoff Bullock

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Peter 1:3-9

SERMON

"Life is Hard; Pray Harder"

Rev. Helen P. DeLeon

✠ CHORUS OF THANKSGIVING

Indescribable

Laura Story

✠ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in God, who brings Easter into our Good Friday worlds, who brings sunshine after rain, hope in the midst of pain and tenderly calls our name. We believe in Jesus Christ, the risen Savior, whose presence we can know and experience. We believe in the Holy Spirit—the invisible presence of God at work in our world bringing reconciliation instead of hatred, creating communities of support even in the most difficult times. We believe God is at work in the church and in us, creating centers of compassion, a fellowship of forgiveness, a gathering of grace, where joy glistens like dew on spring flowers and love flows like a mighty stream. Alleluia! Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LORD'S PRAYER

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. Amen.

OFFERING

Shout to the Lord

Darlene Zschesch

✠ SONG OF COMMITMENT

Blessed Be Your Name

Beth & Matt Redman

✠ BENEDICTION

✠ SONG FOR GOING FORTH

Blessed Be Your Name

Beth & Matt Redman

✠ Those who are able may stand.