

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME

† CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Come to Christ, that living stone, rejected by the world, but in God's sight chosen and precious.

P: We have responded to Christ's call, and seek to be built into a spiritual house, a living reminder of God's presence on earth.

L: Once we were no people, but now we are God's people, called out of the darkness into God's marvelous light.

P: Blessed be your name, O God, our Redeemer. By your mercy we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

† HYMN *We Gather Together* UMH #131

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Almighty God, who gave your Son Jesus Christ a realm where all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; make us loyal followers of our living Lord, that we may always hear his word, follow his teachings, and live in his Spirit; and hasten the day when every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that he is Lord; to your eternal glory. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON *Jeremiah 23:1-6*

¹ Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. ² Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. ³ Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. ⁴ I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall no longer fear longer or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD. ⁵ The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely and shall

execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶ In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

SPECIAL MUSIC *Medley for Thanksgiving* Zion Bell Choir
Arranged by: Sondra K. Tucker

CHILDREN'S TIME

† HYMN *Jesus Shall Reign* UMH #157

GOSPEL LESSON *Luke 23:33-43*

³³ When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. [³⁴ Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."]] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁵ And the people stood by watching, but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" ³⁶ The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine ³⁷ and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" ³⁸ There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews." ³⁹ One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" ⁴⁰ But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?" ⁴¹ And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." ⁴² Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come in your kingdom." ⁴³ He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."

SERMON *"Seems Odd"* Rev. David Magruder

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

PROCLAMATION OF FAITH *A Modern Affirmation* UMH #885

† HYMN *Crown Him with Many Crowns* UMH #327

† BENEDICTION

