

## THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

August 23rd, 2009

Homecoming Sunday and Service of Dedication

•Those who are able may stand

### GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

**Prelude** "Voluntary In Free Style"

**Greetings, Introductions, and Announcements**

**Gathering Song** "Bless the Lord, O My Soul"

### Call to Worship

Leader: God has granted us homes in which to dwell. God draws us into a spiritual community.

**People: God calls us to trust with steady hearts and to serve with righteous compassion.**

Leader: Come now, that we may pray together and humble ourselves for the worship of God.

**People: We come to the source of life for new strength. We seek unity within and among us.**

### Prayer of the Day

Leader: We have come together to praise all You have done for us and to make our response. We know that here in this Sanctuary we find the comforts of home. Here we bring our anxieties and sufferings to be comforted in Your arms and the arms of fellowship. Here we find others who are traveling the same journey of faith with Jesus Christ as the guide. Here we can reflect on Your generosity and take time to pray. Reveal Yourself to us here, in the home You have created in the fellowship of believers and in the warmth of these walls so that we may recognize and share the good news of the gospel where You have called us to serve. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

•**Hymn 269** "O God of Bethel, by Whose Hand"

DUNDEE

### •Prayer of Confession

**O God, our thoughts are not full of Your love. We forget to listen for Your guidance. When we speak to You, it is often to beg or complain, not to give thanks. Our greed outruns our gratitude. We live fearfully rather than faithfully. When You assure and bless us, we are not satisfied. O God, we cannot turn ourselves around. Help us to change. Help us to share Your love in the homes of family, the homes of friends, the homes of others and in the Lord's house as we seek your forgiveness this hour.**

SILENT CONFESSION

### •Assurance of Pardon

Leader: God, who knows our thoughts, answers our cries and rescues us from darkness. God, who understands our motives, reaches out to heal us and make us righteous. God, who is with us in our weakness, grants strength and power to live as salt and light. No eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love God.

### •Responding to God's Forgiveness - The Gloria Patri #579

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

### PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

#### Prayer of Illumination

**Old Testament Reading:** Psalm 84

**Anthem** "Crowning Glory Medley"

Adult Choir

**New Testament Reading:** Acts 2:42-47

**Sermon** "Home Sweet Home"

Rev. April Cranford

### RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

•**Apostles' Creed** (p.14)

•**Hymn 438** "Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

DENNIS

### GIVING THANKS TO GOD

#### Offering Our Lives and Presenting Our Tithes

**Offertory** "How Great Thou Art" Soloist: Julie Turner

•**Doxology** (#592)

•**The Prayer of Dedication**

**Giving Thanks for the Lives and Ministries of**

**Dr. James Sprunt and the Rev. Clifford Caldwell**

**The Prayers of the People**

**The Lord's Prayer**

### GOING FORTH INTO THE WORLD

•**Hymn 466** "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

AZMON

•**The Charge and Blessing**

•**The Congregational Response** #540 "God Be with You Till We Meet Again"

God be with you till we meet again;  
Loving counsels guide, uphold you,  
With a Shepherd's care enfold you:  
God be with you till we meet again.

Postlude