

ORDER OF WORSHIP

SEPTEMBER 27, 2009

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, this church opens wide her doors and offers welcome to all who sin and need a Savior; to all who are spiritually weak and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort; to all who struggle and desire victory; to all who are strangers and want fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness; and to whomsoever will come.

Jesus taught us that if our brother has something against us, we ought to go and be reconciled to him before we do anything else in gathered worship. Please do that without delay if necessary.

WELCOME TO THE WORSHIP OF GOD

We come to this time of celebration with many things on our minds and need direction, purpose and focus. We always want the cross is the beginning, middle and end of our journey. We are able to approach the God of Wonders because *Christ has made it possible*. Be encouraged today to be preoccupied by the Savior, his cross, and his resurrection.

Come, Christians Join and Sing

Jesus, What a Friend for Sinners

All Heaven Declares

PRAYER OF ADORATION

Unison: Father, all Heaven declares the glory of your risen Son. We join that declaration and praise you, our Father, Christ our brother, and the Holy Spirit, our comfort. All praise, honor, strength and power belong to you. We live because you live, and our being flows from you. Let our purposes and actions reflect your will and your kingdom, and honor your death and resurrection.

Amen*

**Congregation may be seated*

TITHES AND OFFERINGS*

Offertory- "Here I Am" Christ Church Choir, Patrick Smith conducting

SERMON: JOHN SITTEMA

"Fathering: Heeding the Call to Pursue the Fatherless"

A RESPONSIVE VOW

Father, around us in the city and among us in this church are many who are fatherless. They have suffered deep wounds, some from parents, and some because of the absence of parents. As we have freely received your Fatherly love, we vow to freely give. We covenant with you to stand as models of your love and grace and as vessels of your healing, whether the wounds are still fresh or deeply buried. We commit our time, our prayers, our resources and our presence, all given by your grace. God of the fatherless, love the fatherless through us, so that they may know you and your love in Jesus Christ. AMEN

Jesus, All for Jesus

BENEDICTION

WORSHIP WORDS

Worship words from unexpected sources...

When I was a boy of fourteen, my father was so ignorant I could hardly stand to have the old man around.
But when I got to be twenty-one, I was astonished by how much he'd learned in seven years.

-Mark Twain

It is a wise father that knows his own child.

-William Shakespeare