

## GATHERING

Gather in front of your computer or phone in a comfortable, quiet space. Light a candle or turn on a lamp to acknowledge Christ's presence in your worship space. Offer your attendance by posting a greeting or prayer request in the [Facebook](#) comments or fill out the [website](#) connect card.

## CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Shout to God with songs of great joy!

**P: Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!**

L: God has made us whole.

**P: God has called us to a ministry of hope and love.**

L: Come, let us celebrate the love of God!

**P: Let us praise God's name and serve God joyfully. AMEN.**

## SONG OF PRAISE

“What a Beautiful Name”

CCLI Song # 7068424

*You were the Word at the beginning  
One with God the Lord Most High  
Your hidden glory in creation  
Now revealed in You our Christ*

*What a beautiful Name it is  
What a beautiful Name it is  
The Name of Jesus Christ my King  
What a beautiful Name it is  
Nothing compares to this  
What a beautiful Name it is  
The Name of Jesus*

*You didn't want heaven without us  
So Jesus You brought heaven down  
My sin was great Your love was greater  
What could separate us now*

*What a wonderful Name it is  
What a wonderful Name it is  
The Name of Jesus Christ my King  
What a wonderful Name it is  
Nothing compares to this  
What a wonderful Name it is  
The Name of Jesus  
What a wonderful Name it is  
The Name of Jesus*

*Death could not hold You  
The veil tore before You  
You silence the boast of sin and grave  
The heavens are roaring  
The praise of Your glory  
For You are raised to life again  
You have no rival  
You have no equal  
Now and forever God You reign  
Yours is the kingdom  
Yours is the glory  
Yours is the Name above all names*

*What a powerful Name it is  
What a powerful Name it is  
The Name of Jesus Christ my King  
What a powerful Name it is  
Nothing can stand against  
What a powerful Name it is  
The Name of Jesus  
What a powerful Name it is  
The Name of Jesus  
What a powerful Name it is  
The Name of Jesus*

### OPENING PRAYER

Forgiving and gracious God, you have called us to be the church, to live out our Resurrection faith. You have asked us to place our trust in you and to share with everyone the good news of your saving love. But we have failed to do this. We have given our faith a back seat to the troubles of the world and to the stresses in our own life. We look for the quick and easy answers. Forgive us for the smallness of our faith. As we worship, let us feel the power and beauty of praising you and singing your praises. Help us to overcome those traits which pull us away from you and from appreciating all that you have done for us. As we listen to the scriptures this day in which the disciples witnessed Jesus' ascension to you, let our hearts be at peace knowing that you have taught us what we need to know to serve God joyfully in this time and in our world. Inspire us and give us delight for what is to come. AMEN. ~ Nancy C. Townley

### FIRST READING                      Acts 1:1-14 (CEB)

*1 Theophilus, the first scroll I wrote concerned everything Jesus did and taught from the beginning, 2 right up to the day when he was taken up into heaven. Before he was taken up, working in the power of the Holy Spirit, Jesus instructed the apostles he had chosen. 3 After his suffering, he showed them that he was alive with many convincing proofs. He appeared to them over a period of forty days, speaking to them about God's kingdom. 4 While they were eating together, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem but to wait for what the Father had promised. He said, "This is what you heard from me: 5 John baptized with water, but in only a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." 6 As a result, those who had gathered together asked Jesus, "Lord, are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel now?" 7 Jesus replied, "It isn't for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has set by his own authority. 8 Rather, you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." 9 After Jesus said these things, as they were watching, he was lifted up and a cloud took him out of their sight. 10 While he was going away and as they were staring toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood next to them. 11 They said, "Galileans, why are you standing here, looking toward heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way that you saw him go into heaven." 12 Then they returned to Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives, which is near Jerusalem—a sabbath day's journey away. 13 When they entered the city, they went to the upstairs room where they were staying. Peter, John, James, and Andrew; Philip and Thomas; Bartholomew and Matthew; James, Alphaeus' son; Simon the zealot; and Judas, James' son— 14 all were united in their devotion to prayer, along with some women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.*

### SERMON

***"The Blessing of Meeting Jesus"***

Pastor Melody Webb

### PASTORAL PRAYER

Post prayer requests in the [Facebook](#) comments or fill out the [website](#) connect card.

### BLESSING FOR GRADUATES

May God's blessing rest on each one of you.  
May God's light shine on you, and make your path clear.  
May hope carry you through the challenging times,  
and gratitude be your response when life is good.

May your days be filled with curiosity and adventure,  
and may you discover the incomparable joy  
of living lives that bring honour and glory to God. Amen.

### LORD'S PRAYER *(sung in Swahili)*

*Baba yetu, yetu uliye  
Mbinguni yetu, yetu amina!*

*Baba yetu yetu uliye  
M Jina lako e litukuzwe.  
Utupe leo chakula chetu  
Tunachohitaji, utusamehe  
Makosa yetu, hey!  
Kama nasi tunavyowasamehe  
Waliotukosea usitutie  
Katika majaribu, lakini  
Utuokoe, na yule, muovu e milele!*

*Ufalme wako ufike utakalo  
Lifanyike duniani kama mbinguni.  
(Amina)*

**Our Father, who art  
in Heaven. Amen!  
Our Father, Hallowed be thy name.**

**Give us this day our daily bread,  
Forgive us of  
our trespasses,  
As we forgive others  
Who trespass against us  
Lead us not into temptation, but  
deliver us from the evil one forever.**

**Thy kingdom come, thy will be done  
On Earth as it is in Heaven.  
(Amen)**

### OFFERING

Make your offering [online](#) or mail checks to 1421 W. Broadway St., Polk City, IA 50226 (Attn: Finance Secretary)

### WORDS OF BLESSING

Friends, how good and pleasant it is to be together, in person or in spirit, encouraging and consoling, provoking and inspiring. But now the service is ended. Why do you stand looking up toward heaven? Go in peace - into the world, for the love of the world!

### SONG OF SENDING "I'll Fly Away"

*Some glad morning when this life is o'er,  
I'll fly away  
To a home on God's celestial shore,  
I'll fly away  
I'll fly away O glory I'll fly away  
When I die hallelujah by and by, I'll fly away*

*When the shadows of this life have grown,  
I'll fly away  
Like a bird from prison bars has flown,*

### TFWS #2282

*I'll fly away  
I'll fly away O glory I'll fly away  
When I die hallelujah by and by, I'll fly away*

*Just a few more weary days and then,  
I'll fly away  
To a land where joys shall never end,  
I'll fly away  
I'll fly away O glory I'll fly away  
When I die hallelujah by and by, I'll fly away*