



## 2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER

*The \*asterisk is an invitation to rise in body and/or spirit.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Becky Sutton

### PREPARATION

Prelude

*Lift High the Cross*, by David Cherwien

Janet Guetle

### Opening Prayer–All Uniting

Liturgist: LeNan Hager

**Dear God, we give You praise and thanksgiving for all seasons of life, and we ask that You open our eyes that we may see the unique gift of each person's life, created out of Your love. Amen.**

\*Gathering Hymn

*We Gather Together*

UM Hymnal 131

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP (congregation: please refer to the bold text)

L: Give thanks to the Lord, our God, who has created all life. Open our eyes to the joys and gifts to be learned and shared from all seasons of life. Thank you God for children who are curious, unafraid, and infectiously joyful, who are trusting receivers of God's grace.

#### **C: We thank and praise you God for children**

L: Thank you, Lord, for the young who demonstrate courage and hope as they begin new adventures; for their fresh ideas and their energies.

#### **C: We thank and praise you, God, for the young.**

L: For those in the middle years of life, we give thanks, dear Lord; for steady hand and hearts that guide the young, and offer their experience to us all.

#### **C: We thank and praise you, God, for those in the middle years of life.**

L: For those grown up and grown old, dear Lord, we celebrate Your special gift. We give thanks for joys seen only through the eyes of those who are wise in their age, and whose stories of life lived can enrich all our lives.

#### **C: We give thanks and praises, dear Lord, for those who have grown old.**

L: Guide our lives, Lord, so that in each stage of life we recognize and cherish the joys and sorrows, the strengths and weaknesses, and the special presence of Your Spirit—not only in our own season of life, but in the lives of each other, young or old or in between.

#### **C: God's love enfolds us all, every day.**

### INTO THE WORD

Psalm 78:1–4

2 Timothy 1:4–10

Lay Reader: Sherri Pembrook

\*Response to the Word

*Gloria Patri*

UM Hymnal 71

Message A Beacon of Hope Provides the Gift of Faith Through the Generations  
Becky Sutton

### RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Prayer Hymn

*Now Thank We All Our God*

UM Hymnal 102

Morning Prayer

Lord's Prayer–**UM Hymnal 895**

Invitation and Dedication for the Giving of Our Lives, Tithes, Gifts, and Offerings:  
*When we bring an offering to God, it is a form of worship. Worshipping God with giving of our money reveals our hearts desire. We give sacrificially, generously, and continuously as a way of ascribing value to who God is in our lives. As we do so, our love for God and others grow.*

\***Doxology**

*Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

**UM Hymnal 94**

\*Prayer of Dedication

### SENDING FORTH

\*Hymn of Parting

*Crown Him with Many Crowns*

UM Hymnal 327

\*Benediction

Postlude

*Lift High the Cross*, setting by Gordon Young

Janet Guetle

