Prelude

✝Call to Worship ................................................. Barton Kimbro
Assistant Pastor, Young Adults

✝Everlasting God

Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord—
We will wait upon the Lord. We will wait upon the Lord.
Our God, You reign forever – our hope, our strong deliverer!
You are the everlasting God, the everlasting God.
You do not faint, You won’t grow weary.
You’re the defender of the weak. You comfort those in need.
You lift us up on wings like eagles.

✝Invocation (please raise hands)

Worship of God with the Gifts of God

Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder

Let us love and sing and wonder, let us praise the Savior’s Name!
He has hushed the law’s loud thunder, He has quenched Mount Sinai’s flame.
He has washed us with His blood, He has washed us with His blood,
He has washed us with His blood, He has brought us nigh to God.

Let us love the Lord Who bought us, pitied us when enemies,
Called us by His grace, and taught us, gave us ears and gave us eyes:
He has washed us with His blood, He has washed us with His blood,
He has washed us with His blood, He presents our souls to God.

Let us sing, though fierce temptation threatens hard to bear us down!
For the Lord, our strong Salvation, holds in view the conqueror’s crown:
He, Who washed us with His blood, He, Who washed us with His blood,
He, Who washed us with His blood, soon will bring us home to God.
Let us wonder; grace and justice join and point to mercy's store;  
When through grace in Christ our trust is, justice smiles and asks no more: 
He, Who washed us with His blood, He, Who washed us with His blood,  
He, Who washed us with His blood, has secured our way to God. 

Let us praise, and join the chorus of the saints enthroned on high;  
Here they trusted Him before us, now their praises fill the sky: 
Thou hast washed us with Thy blood; Thou hast washed us with Thy blood;  
Thou hast washed us with Thy blood; Thou art worthy, Lamb of God!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Sacrament of Christian Baptism ..................................... Tiannyun “Judy” Zhao

Greetings and Announcements

Commissioning of Tim Johnson and The Avenue Church

Scripture Reading.......................................................... Romans 15:18-24 
(page 950 in the pew Bible)

The grass withers, the flower fades,  
but the Word of our God will stand forever. (Isaiah 40:8)

Sermon: Where Christ Is Not Known..................................... Dan Burns  
Associate Pastor, World Missions

Invitation to the Table

All who have publicly professed their faith and joined a Christian church are welcomed to receive communion tonight. We encourage children not to take communion until they have joined the church but do welcome them to come forward with their parents to receive a blessing. If you are unable to come forward, please raise your hand and an elder will serve you in your seat. All communion wafers are gluten free.

Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Divine Pardon

Words of Institution

Prayer of Consecration
Confession and Pardon

Words of Institution

Prayer of Consecration

Songs for the Table

Revelation Song

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain. Holy, holy is He.
Sing a new song to Him who sits on Heaven’s mercy seat.

Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord, God Almighty, who was and is and is to come.
With all creation I sing, praise to the King of Kings.
You are my everything, and I will adore you.

Clothed in rainbows, of living color. Flashes of lightning, rolls of thunder.
Blessing and honor, strength and glory and power be, to You, the only wise King.

Filled with wonder, awestruck wonder, at the mention of Your Name.
Jesus, Your Name is power, breath, and living water. Such a marvelous mystery.

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

What a Friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry ev’rything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry ev’rything to God in prayer.

Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged: take it to the Lord in prayer!
Can we find a friend so faithful, who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our ev’ry weakness – take it to the Lord in prayer!

Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge – take it to the Lord in prayer!
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In His arms He’ll take and shield thee; thou wilt find a solace there.

Our Great God

Eternal God, unchanging, mysterious, and unknown
Your boundless love, unfailing in grace and mercy shown
Bright seraphim in ceaseless flight around Your glorious throne
They raise their voices day and night in praise to You alone.

Hallelujah! Glory be to our great God!

Lord, we are weak and frail, helpless in the storm.
Surround us with Your angels, hold us in Your arms.
Our cold and ruthless enemy – his pleasure is our harm.
Rise up, O Lord, and he will flee before our sovereign God.

Let every creature in the sea and every flying bird,
Let every mountain, every field and valley of the earth,
Let all the moons and all the stars in all the universe
Sing praises to the living God who rules them by His Word.
Prelude

Call to Worship

Everlasting God
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You are the everlasting God, the everlasting God—
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(please raise hands)

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Amazing Grace

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found; was blind, but now I see.
’Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!
My chains are gone, I’ve been set free.
My God, my Savior, has ransomed me!
And like a flood, His mercy rains – unending love, amazing grace.

The Lord has promised good to me. His Word, my hope, secures.
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.
The earth shall soon dissolve like snow, the sun forbear to shine.
But God who called me here below will be forever mine.
You are forever mine.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Benediction (please raise hands) .................................................... Tim Johnson

Postlude

Indicates standing

Elders are available following the service for prayer and anointing with oil.

Worship Leaders: Mary Grace Walters, Jasmine Lamb, Haleigh Boykin, Christy Young, Robert Vestal, Chris Pruett, Dawayne Anderson, Ethan Knight, Daniel Pollorena, Kurt Ruleman, Samuel Metzger