



"Ushering in the Kingdom of God"

DR. TIM BRUSTER

James 2:1-9, 14-17

Sanctuary Service

11:00 am

August 25, 2019

WE GATHER

Welcome & Announcements

DR. TIM BRUSTER and DR. MIKE MARSHALL

Prelude — My Song Is Love Unknown

Robert Hebble

Choral Call to Worship

*Call to Worship

Rev. Linda McDermott

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Leader: If you are spiritually weary and in search of rest; if you are mourning and you long for comfort;

All: You are welcomed by Christ here.

Leader: If you are struggling and you desire victory; if you recognize that you are a sinner and need a Savior,

All: You are welcomed by Christ here.

Leader: To the stranger in need of fellowship, to those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, and to whoever will come —

All: This congregation opens wide our doors and welcomes all in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Let us worship the Lord!

*Hymn 384 — Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down; fix in us thy humble dwelling; all thy faithful mercies crown!

Jesus thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art; visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast!

Let us all in thee inherit; let us find that second rest.

Take away our bent to sinning; **Alpha and Omega** be; end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty to deliver, let us all thy life receive; suddenly return and never, nevermore thy temples leave. Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above, pray and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

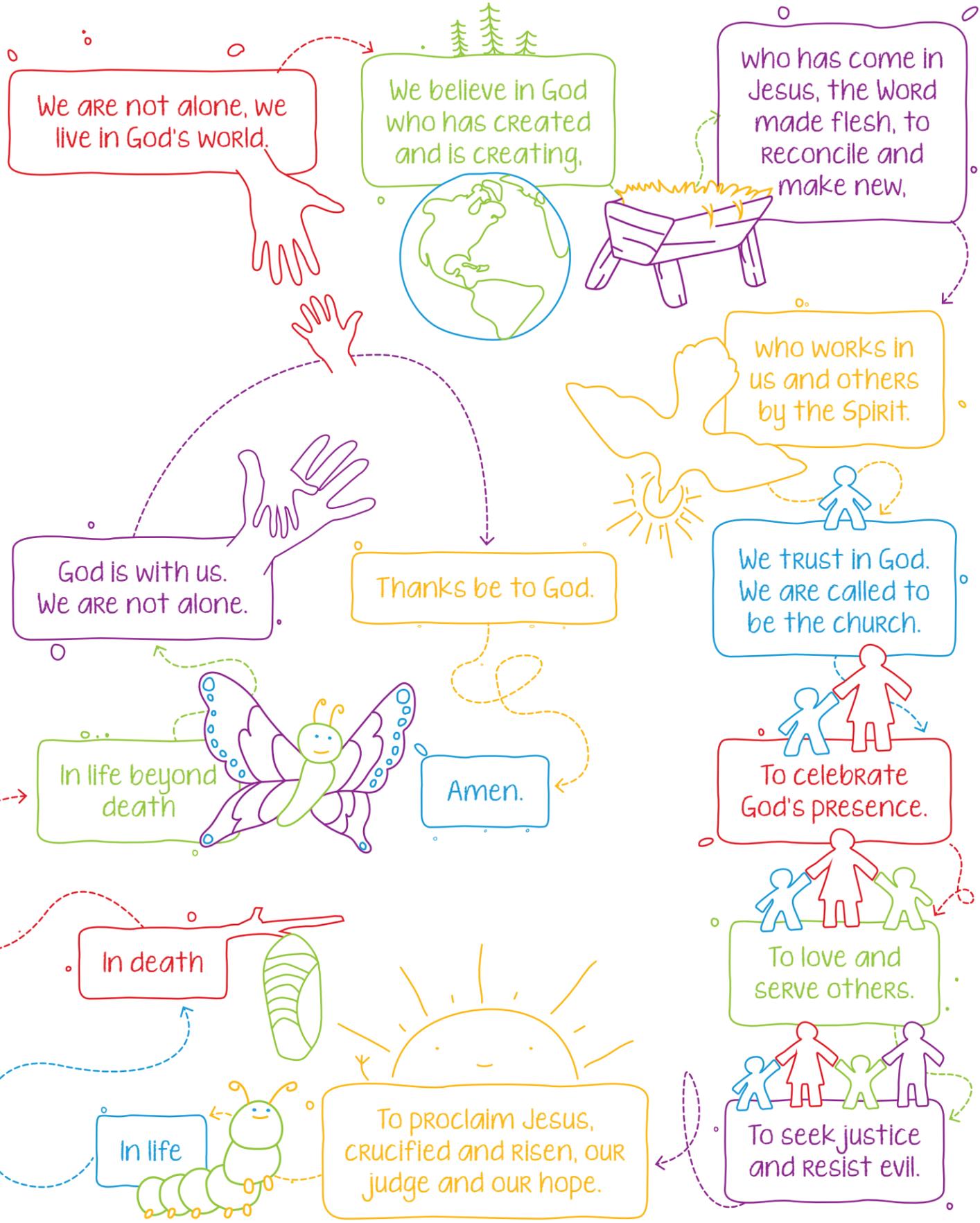
Finish, then, thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be. Let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee; changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Word of the Day:
welcome

Memory Verse:
Love your
neighbor as
yourself.
— James 2:8

Alpha and Omega are the first and last letters in the Greek alphabet. We are asking God to be our beginning and end - our A to Z.

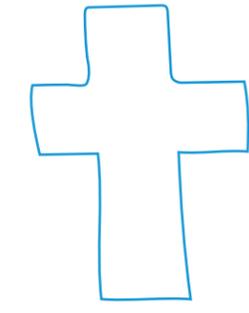
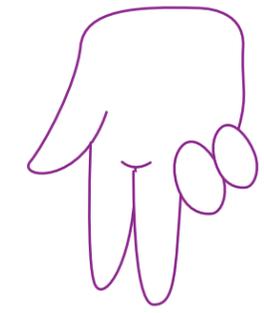
*Affirmation of Faith



WE PROCLAIM

*Gloria Patri

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.

Please be seated. Ushers will assist in seating at this time.

Scripture – James 2:1-9, 14-17

God speaks to us through the reading of scripture. Thanks be to God.

Faith Like a Child

*Passing the Peace Rachel Muttiah

Hymn 560 – Help Us Accept Each Other

Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us; teach us as sister, brother, each person to embrace. Be present, Lord, among us and bring us to believe we are ourselves accepted and meant to love and live.

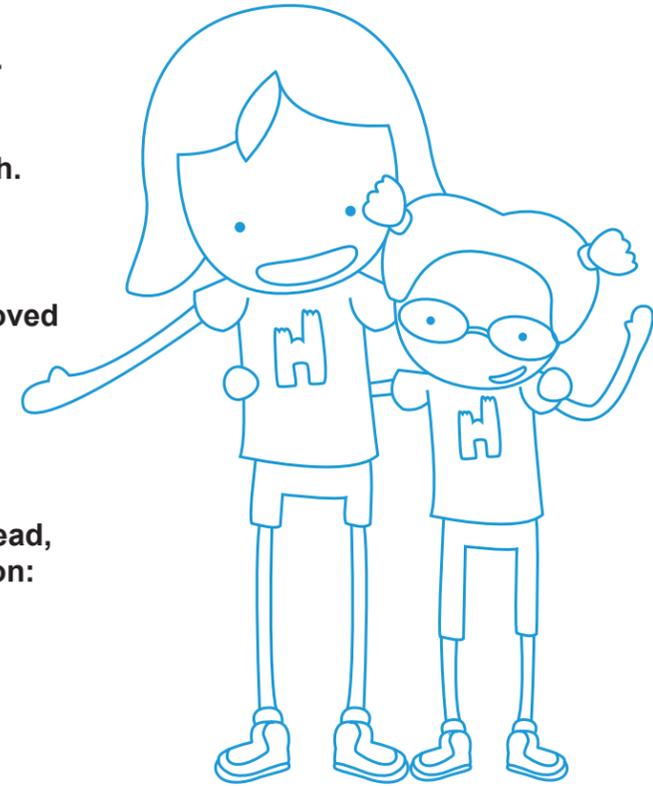
Teach us, O Lord, your lessons, as in our daily life we struggle to be human and search for hope and faith. Teach us to care for people, for all not just for some, to love them as we find them or as they may be come.

Let your acceptance change us, so that we may be moved in living situations to do the truth in love; to practice your acceptance until we know by heart the table of forgiveness and laughter's healing art.

Lord, for today's encounters with all who are in need, who hunger for acceptance, for righteousness and bread, we need new eyes for seeing, new hands for holding on: renew us with your Spirit; Lord, free us, make us one!

Scripture: Each week we read from the Bible – the book of God's love. Its words can inspire you, comfort you, teach you, and challenge you to be your best self – a true servant of God.

You can listen as the scripture is read, or... Find a Bible nearby, look up the scripture, and follow along.



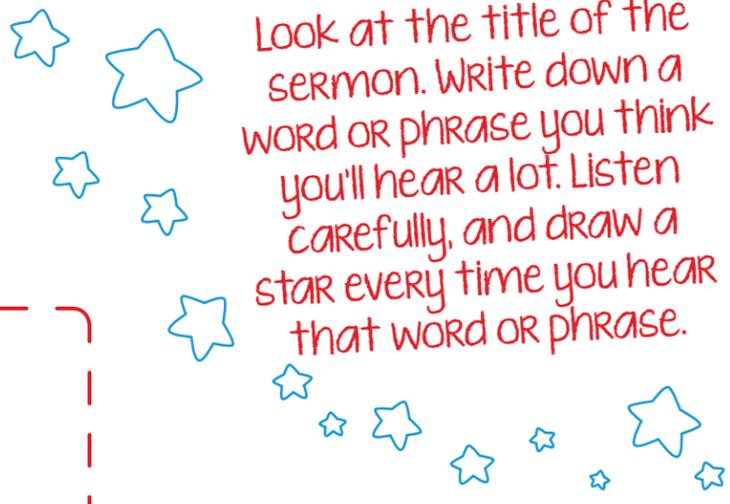
Sermon Snips:
You don't have to "just sit there." Choose one of the sermon snips and let it guide you as you take your relationship with God to the next level.



Ushering in the Kingdom of God

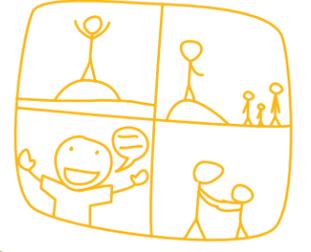
A large dashed red rectangular box intended for drawing or writing.

Look at the title of the sermon. Write down a word or phrase you think you'll hear a lot. Listen carefully, and draw a star every time you hear that word or phrase.



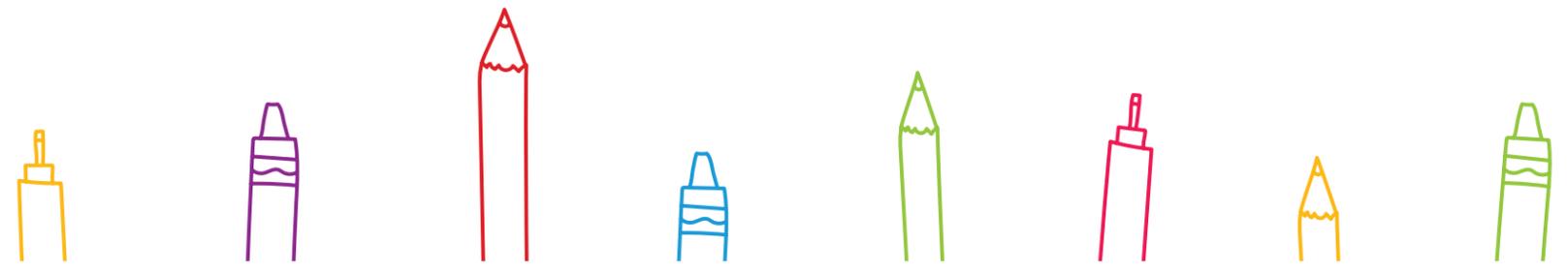
What about the sermon surprised you?

Take the Bible story, or one of the stories from the sermon, and create a storyboard. Think of it as a 4-panel comic strip that tells the story.



Be mindful.
What is something deep inside you that God wants the world to know?

Make a list of all the things that distract you during the sermon. Can you fix some of these? Can God help?



WE RESPOND

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.

Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Many years after Jesus went to heaven, the early church added this part of the prayer. Hold the prayer cross close to your heart as you say this part.



A Time of Giving

Mission Moment

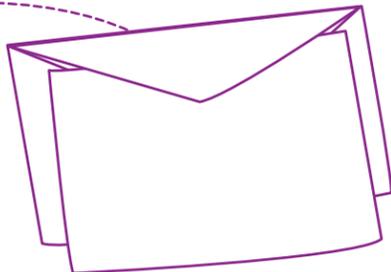
Suzanne and Steve Buchele

Offertory — Arise O God, and Shine
Mack Wilberg

Find the offering envelope in your worship kit. Write your first and last name on the envelope, then put in the money you plan to give to the church. Place the envelope in the offering plate. Every dollar makes a difference!

*Doxology 95

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God above ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.



*Invitation to Christian Discipleship

*Hymn 664 — Sent Forth by God's Blessing

Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing,
the people of God from this dwelling take leave.
The service is ended, O now be extended
the fruits of our worship in all who believe.
The seed of the teaching, receptive souls reaching,
shall blossom in action for god and for all.
God's grace did invite us, and love shall unite us
to work for God's kingdom and answer the call.

With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living,
the tasks of our everyday life we will face.
Our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,
embracing God's children of each tribe and race.
With your grace you feed us, with your light now lead us;
unite us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving
give honor to Christ and that name which we bear.

*Benediction

Our gathering will soon be ended, where will we go, and what will we do?
We will go out to be God's people in the world.
May grace, peace, hope, love, and joy forever accompany you. Amen.

*Choral Benediction

*Postlude — Postlude on "Monkland"
Albert L. Travis

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given in loving memory of Natalie Prince by her parents, Donna and Doug Prince.

The white carnations symbolize our sympathy to the families and friends of Danny Longeway and Ann Solley.

Worship Leaders:

Sermon: Dr. Tim Bruster, Senior Pastor

Liturgists: Dr. Mike Marshall, Rev. Linda McDermott

Faith Like a Child: Chris Rathburn, Winston Murrey, helper

Choir: Choral Union

Mr. Robert Stovall, Director of Music and Worship Arts

Mrs. Peggy Graff, Organist/Associate Director of Music and Worship Arts

Procession: Ellis and Lylah Mills

*Please stand as you are able.

How are you going to be one of God's people in the world this week?

WORSHIP KIT

↪ INSIDE YOU WILL FIND ↪

TREASURES OF NATURE BOX

One of the best ways we can experience God's power and love is by cherishing God's handiwork in the wonders of nature. Carefully open the box and discover what treasures wait inside.

BLANK CARD

You can use the pencil and crayons to make a *Thank You* note for someone in the Sanctuary who helped make worship feel special to you. It could be a parent, a minister, a choir member, an usher, or someone in the next pew who gave you a friendly wave. After the service, ask your parents to take you to hand-deliver the card.

ANOINTING BALM

Use the anointing balm to bless a friend or family member sitting next to you. Rub a tiny bit of the balm on your thumb and trace the sign of the cross on your neighbor's forehead or back of the hand (whichever they prefer). As you do this, say a simple blessing, such as "God bless you." (It's not just for sneezes.) Or, for a longer blessing, you could say:

*You are a special person.
God loves you, and so do I.
Bless you.*

And don't forget to allow your neighbor the privilege of getting to bless you.

PIPE STEMS

There are so many things you can do with pipe stems. You could:

- Listen to the sermon and sculpt an object you hear mentioned.
- Shape them in the initials of someone you'd like to pray for.
- Look around the Sanctuary and sculpt something you see.
- Sculpt a flower and give it to a family member.
- Make a friendship bracelet and give it to a friend, or to a new member.

PRAYER CROSS

The cross is such a powerful symbol of God's love and hope. Anytime is a good time to hold on to the cross. See inside the bulletin for how to use the prayer cross during the Lord's Prayer.

TANGLE

Listen to a piece of music or a Bible story and mold the tangle to show how it makes you feel.

Does it make you feel:

- Open and ready for God's presence?
- Tangled and confused?
- Wrapped snugly and securely?
- Calm like a gentle stream?
- Not sure?

PENCIL AND CRAYONS

Use these to write notes in your bulletin, draw a prayer, illustrate a story you hear in the sermon, or even ask hard questions.

CLOTH FIGURE

Here are just a few things you can do with the cloth figure:

- Have it act out the events in the Bible story.
- Help it read the bulletin.
- Gently hold it the way God is holding you right now.

EYE SPY CARD AND TELESCOPE

Use the Eye Spy card to identify some of the many meaningful objects and symbols in our Sanctuary. Use the telescope to help you explore.

