

Cardboard Confessions

*Congregational responses are in **bold**.*

Call to Worship:

Brothers and sisters in Christ, as we gather for worship today, let us put away all bitterness and wrath and anger-- and be kind to one another.

May we be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as Christ has forgiven us.

Be imitators of God and live in love, as Christ loved us,

and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Opening Prayer: *Say "please join me in the opening prayer"*

Most merciful God, we ask forgiveness for our words. We are grateful for the ability to speak, but so often what we say is hurtful. We use words to tear down relationships, to make fun of others, to show how incredibly witty we are. Sometimes we know the minute we say it, other times we may have fooled ourselves into thinking what we say is "for their own good." Forgive us, God. Help us use our language to build up instead of tear down. Allow our words to show kindness and graciousness to others. Help us to live in love, as Christ loved us. Amen.

Hymn: Worthy of Worship

Call to Confession: God does not hide from us, and always hears our cry for help. Confident of God's presence, let us confess our sins individually and together.

Prayer of Confession:

Lord, in our busy lives, we're constantly on the move. We're in a constant state of "hurry up and wait". At this moment, we confess that too often we're in a hurry for the wrong things: career, power, money. And we never stop for the right things: prayer, kindness, service, worship. Lord, you have given us so much-- even your life, utterly and completely. So we stop and confess all the ways we are confused, when we are to stop, and when we are to go. Amen.

Hymn: Blest Be the Tie That Binds

Prayer of Assurance: Say *“please join me in the prayer of assurance”*

Our Lord comes to us in the wee hours of the morning, in the midday of the afternoon, in the dusk of the evening. Our Lord never gives up on us. Our Savior comes to restore us and make us new. Let us receive the gift of this grace and love, as only Christ can do. In His name we pray. Amen.

Praise Response

Praise the Lord

The Lord Be Praised!

Song Response

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.

Scripture Reading: Ephesians 4: 25-32, 5: 1-2

Anthem: Here I Am To Worship (sung by youth choir)

Sermon: Cardboard Confessions
Indescribable

Hymn: At The Cross

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord be with you

And also with you.

Let us pray.

The Lord's Prayer

Bringing of the Gifts: As followers of Christ, we are to practice Jesus' ways of obedience and sacrifice. He gave every part of himself to God's will and consequently became a blessing for all the world. Our tithes and offerings are signs of our own obedience and sacrifice. May they be used this day to be a blessing to the world in Christ's name.

Offertory Awesome God

Prayer of Dedication: Say- please join me in the prayer of dedication:

Thank you for the opportunity to live as an example, offering to others what You have given us. Bless us, dear Lord, and accept these tithes and Offerings as our praise to the Savior, the risen and glorified Jesus.

Hymn: God Is Here!

Benediction