

Words to Ponder: “We should live our lives as though Christ was coming this afternoon.” Former president *Jimmy Carter*

Gathering Music **“The Battle Hymn of the Republic”** **Odetta**

Words of Welcome | *Passing of the Peace **Rev. Ann Hayman**

Call to Worship (Psalm 78:1-7) **Patricia Boykin**

Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth. I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old, things that we have heard and known, that our ancestors have told us.

We will not hide them from their children; we will tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and God’s might, and the wonders that he has done.

God established a decree in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which God commanded our ancestors to teach to their children; that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and rise up and tell them to their children,

So that they should set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God but keep God’s commandments.

***Opening Hymn** **“My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”** **PH#379**

Call to Confession **Patricia Boykin**

Unison Prayer of Confession

Holy God, your way for us is clear: We are to live so that the manner of our lives speaks of your goodness, your generosity, your infinite mercy. Too often, though, we forget the purposes for which you made us. Too often, when we might meet inhumanity with the reflection of your goodness, we turn aside. We return unkindness for unkindness. We cling to what might be shared. We avoid those who are not like us. We fail to give grace in the measure we have received it. Forgive us, we pray. Remind us that your goodness is enduring, and your mercy is everlasting, for we pray all these things in the name of our savior, Jesus Christ. Amen

Words of Assurance (Ephesians 2:8-10)

By grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing: it is the gift of God, not the result of works, so that no one might boast.

For we are what God has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

Believe the promise of the gospel:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Time with Children	“Be Prepared”	Rev. Ann Hayman
Anthem	“Shine on Us”	Erica Blyther
Prayer for Illumination		Patricia Boykin
Scripture	Amos 5:18-24 Revised Standard Version	Patricia Boykin
Sermon	“Living Lives Worthy of God” Matthew 25:1-13	Rev. Ann Hayman

A Litany for Veterans (written by Rev. Tom Williams)

Leader: We pause to remember those who go to war in our name.

Congregation: We give thanks for courage, for love of country, for those who work to bring peace to our world.

L: Remind us, Oh God, that the goal of any war need be justice and peace.

C : On this day, we pause in worship to give thanks to God for veterans.

L: And seek to bind up the wounds of those who served.

C: Enable us to know how to comfort, how to bind up their wounds.

L: And remind us, Dear God, that the widow, the orphan, the widower, and the veteran – all know the cost of war.

C: Challenge us to love the warrior but hate the cost of war.

L: And we pray for a time when peace will reign and swords become plowshares once more, that war be known only in history books.

All: And we give thanks, Gracious God, that you remain with us as we celebrate the service of all who dared to go forth in our name. Remind us that such service is not a movie, an adventure, nor something to be glorified. Remind us that war is a failure by us to overcome hatred with love, injustice with righteousness, violence with peace. We give thanks for those who protect us from such failures. May we truly be Your people and be makers of peace. AMEN.

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer	Rev. Ann Hayman
The Offering	
The Call to Giving	Patricia Boykin
Offertory	
*Doxology	
Prayer of Dedication	Rev. Ann Hayman
Announcements	Patricia Boykin

***Closing Hymn**

“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

PH #281

***Charge** (Colossians 3:13-15)

Rev. Ann Hayman

Benediction (Numbers 6:24-26)

Rev. Ann Hayman

May the Lord bless you and keep you,

May God’s face to shine on you and be gracious unto you.

Lift up the light of God’s countenance upon you and give you
peace, this day and forevermore. **Amen.**

Postlude