

Quest:

The Awakened Traveler

“Leaving Home”

WE GATHER

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Entering the Journey

Opening Prayer

Sojourning God,
your Spirit exists everywhere, on every path,
inviting us to move with curiosity and compassion toward each
other.

Give us courage to leave the familiar,
to venture out beyond our walls,
taking leave so that we will see with wider vision,
know with deeper appreciation,
exist with expanded perception.

Nudge and guide us, we pray.
Amen.

The Quest

Words and Music by Dr. Marcia Mcfee
Arr. by David C. Horton

Lea - ving home, we set our see - ing,
on a quest for dee - per mea - ning.
What we find can change us for the love of
all the cre - a - tion and it's be - ings.

(Repeat as led)

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Opening Hymn

"Guide Me O Thou, Great Jehovah"
UMH 127

Confession and Assurance

Let us pray:

Merciful God,
we confess that we have not loved you with our whole
hearts
and have not loved our neighbors as ourselves,
through what we have done and left undone.
Forgive us when we turn away.
Guide us as we seek to turn around toward greater love.
Lead us to travel in your ways.
Amen.

Know this:

At the moment of despair and unknowing,
Jesus appeared to the disciples on the road.
He is our constant companion
and invites us always to break open our lives and
share, traveling together toward the Kingdom of Love.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.
Glory to God. Amen!

Peace

The peace of the risen Christ is with you!
And also with you!

*You are invited to greet people around you
as directed by the leader.*

WE PROCLAIM

Children's Time of Unpacking

"Bring Forth the Kingdom of God"
You are salt for the earth, O people:
Salt for the Kingdom of God!
Share the flavor of life, O people:
Life in the Kingdom of God!

Bring forth the Kingdom of mercy,
Bring forth the Kingdom of peace;
Bring forth the Kingdom of justice,
Bring forth the City of God!

First Reading

Psalms 121 (NRSV)

Ministry of Music

"Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus"
Will McCann

Second Reading

Exodus 13: 17-21 (NRSV)

WE RESPOND

Reflecting on the Journey

Travel Journal Questions:

Imagine yourself in the doorway of your home, about to take a step into a journey into the unknown. What are you feeling? Anticipation? Anxiety? Excitement?

Do you feel drawn to new things or dread facing the unknown?

What is your relationship to the rest of the world? Curious? Familiar? Lost? Frightened?

Do you have childhood memories of attitudes about "local and global?" Were they positive? Did you get the opportunity to know more through travel? Were you exposed to education about other places?

SERMON

"Leaving Home"

Prayers of the People

"Stepping In"

There is a prayer like a wide river
it never ends, does not begin
around the world, it's always flowing
and I am stepping in, we are stepping in.

We are praying, for those in distant places different
languages and faces, every hour of the day, and we
are praying, with enemies and strangers
in gratitude, in danger,
calling God's ten thousand names

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Offering and Doxology

WE VENTURE FORTH

Closing Hymn/Song

"In the Midst of New Dimensions "

FWS 2238

Benediction

Postlude