But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear; for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

—Isaiah 43.1-3

GATHERING AT GOD’S INVITATION

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE
Alex Porter

OPENING SENTENCES
Rev. Alan Sherouse

MINISTRY OF MUSIC
Gerre Hancock

Beautiful Savior

†RESPONSIVE PSALM
Terri Vancil

In God is glory and strength.
The Lord is mighty.

Emmanuel! God is with us.

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters;
in rumbling thunder, God’s mighty voice soothes.
The Lord is majestic.

Emmanuel! God is with us.
The whisper of the Lord snaps the silence.
The Lord is awesome.

**Emmanuel! God is with us.**

As flames being fanned, his presence grows.
In its shadow the wilderness pleads.
The Lord is powerful.

**Emmanuel! God is with us.**

God rules the universe.
The peaceful scepter prevails.
God reigns.

**Emmanuel! God is with us.**

In whirling winds, nature acknowledges his glory.
The people in the temple rejoice.
It is certain.

**Emmanuel! God is with us.**

—based on Psalm 29
A TIME FOR CHILDREN

Christina McCord

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

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During the Congregational Response, children, ages four through first grade, may attend Junior Church and return to the sanctuary after the sermon.

PRAYERS OF GOD’S PEOPLE
Rev. Amy Grizzle Kane

OPENING OF GOD’S WORD
Davis Cox

HEARING GOD’S WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON
Rev. Cherry

Luke 3.15-17, 21-22

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

YOU ARE MINE
The Power of You

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

†HYMN OF RESPONSE 721
SHINE, JESUS, SHINE
Shine, Jesus, Shine

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

Offertory Prayer
Dr. Richard Beavers, deacon

Choral Offering
You Are Mine
Mark Hayes
Youth Choir, Cynthia Hartis, accompanist

I will come to you in the silence, I will lift you from all your fear.
You will hear my voice, I claim you as my choice, be still and know I am here.
I am hope for all who are hopeless, I am eyes for all who long to see.
In the shadows of the night I will be your light, come and rest in me.
Do not be afraid, I am with you. I have called you each by name.
Come and follow me, I will bring you home; I love you and you are mine.
I am strength for all the despairing, healing for the ones who dwell in shame.
All the blind will see, the lame will all run free, and all will know my name.
I am the Word that leads all to freedom, I am the peace the world cannot give.
I will call your name embracing all your pain. Stand up, now walk, and live!

SENDING INTO GOD’S WORLD

†Benediction
Rev. Sherouse

†Congregational Response
Crusaders’ Hymn

Beautiful Savior, Lord of the Nations, Son of God, and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be thine!
Amen.