



Opening Prayer

**Unison** Gracious God,  
on this day we celebrate Christian homes,  
and the women in our lives who nurture us,  
protect us, and guide us,  
reflecting the eternal love of Christ.  
Remind us that we are responsible for caring for each other.  
You call us to lift up rather than tear down;  
to support rather than abandon,  
to reach out when others have turned away.  
Give us hearts of love that, in all places and times,  
we may bear witness to the hope  
that is found in Jesus Christ. Amen.

+ Hymn # 385 "All People That on Earth Do Dwell" Old Hundredth

Prayer for Illumination Steve Kessel, Elder (8:30)  
Johnny Harvey, Elder (10:30)

**Unison** O Lord, your Word directs our thoughts and actions.  
Your Word is our fortress and strength,  
providing shelter and foundation for daily living.  
Give us ears to hear and hearts to listen to your Word. Amen.

First Reading Acts 6:1-7 Pew Bible, page 889

Litany of Confession and Forgiveness

*Elder* Whoever believes in Christ  
will not be put to shame.  
Confident in this promise,  
let us confess our sin before God and one another.

**People** Almighty God,  
your Word offers freedom from sin,  
but we confess that we have not obeyed your Word.  
We have harbored malice towards our enemies;  
we have been deceitful in our relationships;  
we have been insincere in our commitments;  
through gossip we have slandered our friends.  
Forgive us our sins and lead us to genuine repentance.  
Help us long for the pure, spiritual food you offer  
that we may grow into the joy of salvation. Amen.

*Elder* Sisters and brothers,  
once we were not a people,  
**People** but now we are God's people;

*Elder* once we had not received mercy,  
**People** but now we have received mercy.

*Elder* In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!  
**People** Thanks be to God!

+ Response # 581 "Gloria Patri" Greatorex

+ Lighting of the Peace Candle John Partin, Liturgist (8:30)  
Gabe Adams, Liturgist (10:30)  
*Congregation of the Good Shepherd, Beijing, PRC*

*Liturgist* God is like a parent,  
teaching us the ways of peace  
through the example of Christ our Savior.

**People** When we offer food and comfort,  
grasp our neighbors hand in love,  
tread the path of peace and justice,  
God still walks with us in life.

+ Hymn "Like a Mother Who Has Borne Us" Austin

Like a mother who has borne us, held us close in her delight,  
lifted us and healed our sorrows, God has called us into life.

+ Sharing the Peace

*Liturgist* May the peace of Christ be with you.  
**People** And also with you.

Children's Homily—10:30 Aaron Miller, Storyteller  
Hymn – seated "Jesus Loves Me"

*Children in Preschool through 2nd grade  
may go to Children's Church with Trudi Peevey & Julie Murphy (PreK-K),  
and Shelia Bennett & Kay Keeler (1st-2nd).*

Second Reading 1 Peter 2:2-10 Pew Bible, page 984

Gospel Reading John 14:1-10 Pew Bible, page 877

+Hymn # 314 "Longing for Light" Christ, Be Our Light

Sermon "A Welcome Home of Living Stone" Jack Miller, Pastor