

## THE ORDER FOR OUR WORSHIP

**PRELUDE** - "With Christ is Love and Light"  
by Edward Elgar.

**HYMN 650** - we sing, standing

### INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

### OPENING DIALOG

The Lord is my light and my salvation – whom shall I fear? **The Lord is the stronghold of my life – of whom shall I be afraid?**

Hear my voice when I call, O Lord; be merciful to me and answer me.

Teach me Your way, O Lord, **that I may walk in Your truth.**

Wait for the Lord; **be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray. **O Lord, keep Your family the Church continually in the true faith that, relying on the hope of Your heavenly grace, we may ever be defended by Your mighty power; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*(please be seated)*

**FIRST LESSON** (*bulletin back page*)  
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

**PSALM 112:1-9** - *We speak in unison.*

**SECOND LESSON** (*bulletin back page*)  
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

page 156 - **ALLELUIA** - *all standing*

**GOSPEL** (*bulletin back page*) - *all standing*  
*Before, all sing: Glory to You, O Lord!*  
*After, all sing: Praise to You, O Christ!*

**HYMN 411** - *we sing, seated*

### SERMON

**APOSTLES' CREED** - *hymnal, back cover*  
*all standing*

**OFFERTORY** - *During the gathering,*  
*the congregation sings HYMN 698.*

### PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

*all may kneel*

Response: **Hear our prayer!**

### LORD'S PRAYER

### COLLECT

### BENEDICTION

**HYMN 578 vs. 1, 3, 5 & 6** - *we sing, standing*

**POSTLUDE** - "The Kingdome Come" by R. Thompson.

## NEWS AND NOTES

**Please Join Us** after the 8 AM service for fellowship and coffee. Thank you to Terri Daly for serving this morning!

### Last Sunday Here

Attending: 112      Offering: \$9,981

### This Week Here

Wed	- 1:30 PM	- Bible Study
	- 7:00 PM	- Bell Choir
	- 7:45 PM	- Parish Choir

**Sunday School:** Today, we will study "The Weakened Judge." God grants Samson great strength to defeat the enemies of God's people. Seeking to overcome Samson, the Philistines bribe Delilah to find the source of Samson's strength. Samson deceives Delilah each time she tries to uncover the secret, but he finally reveals the key to his power. Shorn and blinded by the Philistines, Samson is brought to entertain thousands of revelers at the feast to Dagon. Identifying the house's supporting pillars, Samson prays, and God grants him power to bring down the temple, killing everyone.

**2025 Offering Statements** are on the hallway counter. Thank you for picking yours up this morning if you have not already.

**VBS meeting** today after the late service, join us. The sign up sheet to volunteer is up in the hallway. Let's make this the best VBS yet!

**Souper Bowl of Caring** - Please join young people around the country as they demonstrate God's love by loving their neighbors through SOUPER BOWLING OF CARING. It's a simple, yet significant act of caring for others. Drop your soup donations and game day snacks in the totes located under the counter or place a monetary donation in the red box labeled Souper Bowl located on the counter by today. CLC donations will go to Cheshire Community Food Pantry.

**Lenten Soup, Salad & Bible Study**- Wednesday, February 25th, will start our weekly Soup, Salad and Bible Study starting at 6:00 p.m. Sign up sheets are on the bulletin board; plan to join us prior to our Lenten service at 7:30 p.m.

## A WORD ABOUT THE LESSONS

**The Righteousness of Christ** Jesus warns that "unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven" (Matt. 5:20), but He also calls His imperfect people "the salt of the earth" and "the light of the world" (Matt. 5:13, 14). That's because the Lord Jesus came not to abolish the Law or the prophets, "but to fulfill them" (Matt. 5:17) in perfect faith and love. Since He does and teaches all of God's commandments, He is "called great in the kingdom of heaven" (Matt. 5:19). God manifests His "demonstration of the Spirit and of power" in "Jesus Christ and him crucified" (1 Cor. 2:2-4), and through the preaching of the Gospel He gives His "secret and hidden wisdom" (1 Cor. 2:7). Christ gives this perfect righteousness to His people, and it leads them to true fasting, which is "to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free" (Is. 58:6) and "to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house" (Is. 58:7).