



Prelude One Bread, One Body (arr. Ron Schmoltze)

Introit Elijah Rock (arr. Roger Emerson)

Life of the Church

Call to Worship

Leader: Teach us to heed your Word, O God, Father Almighty,

All: God of earth, God of fire, God of the waters of wonder.

God of the gusting and blustering air, by your Spirit

Speak in and through all these things.

Leader: God of every breath and language found throughout the world. Heavenly Father, you who abide in heaven, whisper in our ears so that we must draw closer to you in order to hear.

All: Holy Spirit, be with us this day, within us to purify us;

Above us to draw us up;

Leader: Beneath us to sustain us; Before us to lead us;

All: Behind us to restrain us; Around us to protect us.

Leader: God of grace, Holy Lord of all, shield us, heart and mind

All: So that we realize that your mercy allows us to breathe,

to walk, to shelter and to love. Holy Spirit, teach our spirits to listen to you.

***Hymns to the Spirit** Spirit of the Living God (#492)
Holy Spirit

Scripture (Genesis 1: 1-3)

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.

"The Creation" a poem by James Wheldon Johnson

Scripture (Micah 6:6-8)

With what shall I come before the Lord and bow down before the exalted God? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousand rivers of olive oil? Shall I offer my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul? He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.”

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Holy Spirit, you alone are the greatest power. We pray that you will come upon us. Subdue us. Join us here and let the light of your presence fill us to overflowing. Loving Creator of every naked child, from Whom all gifts and goodness come, illumine our hearts with the mercy that shields us and seals our souls in your righteousness. The knee that is stiff, O Healer, make pliant. The heart that is hard make warm beneath your wing. The soul that is wandering from your path, of which I am one too many times and too easily, grasp and guide them and me back to you and life. Cleanse us, O Best of healers, make us whole!

Hymn of Restoration

Breathe on Me, Breath of God
#461 vs. 1, 2, 3

Scripture (Psalm 51:7-12)

Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow. Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice. Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity. Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me from your presence. Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

Assurance of Pardon

***Song of Praise**

All My Boast is in Jesus

***Affirmation of Faith**

from Brief Statement of Faith (1991)

Offering of Gifts & Music

Holy Spirit, Living Breath of God
(Keith Getty & Stuart Townend)

Scripture (John 14:15-21 & Mark 12:29-31 - alternating)

“If you love me, follow my instructions...The most important one,” answered Jesus, “is this: ‘Hear O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ The second is this: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no commandment greater than these.” ... I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever – the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. “All this I have spoken while still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.”

Service of Holy Communion

Words of Institution

Prayer of Dedication

Lord’s Prayer

Communion Music

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ
(arr. Bradley Ellingboe)

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Lord, our Giver and Sustainer, we praise you for the gift of this holy banquet. Thank you for nourishing our souls and replenishing our spirits with the bread of life and cup of salvation. We have been fed by Word and Sacrament in worship today, and we also acknowledge the movement of the Holy Spirit in this place. As we prepare to depart this sanctuary, help us remain open, vulnerable, and malleable to the Spirit’s working. Looking ahead to this week and the beginning of Lent, help us, O Spirit, to journey with our Savior and walk with Jesus all the way to the cross. We pray in the name of our Triune God; Amen.

Hymn of Reflection Spirit of God, Descend Upon my Heart
#132 vs. 1, 4, 5

Scripture (Galatians 5:13-18, 22, 25)

You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love. For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." If you bite and devour each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other. So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Since we live by the Spirit let us keep in step with the Spirit.

***Sending Hymn** Spirit, Working in Creation (#128, vs 1, 3, 4)

Benediction

Postlude O Living Breath of God (Emma Lou Diemer)

Transitional Pastor: **Geoff Kohler** (geoff@rbcommunity.org)

Associate Pastor: **Mofid Wasef** (mofid@rbcommunity.org)

Director of Worship: **Elizabeth Virkler**

Director of Communications: **Luke Graham**

Organist/Accompanist: **Ronel Wishnuff**

Youth Music/Theater: **Olivia Donald**

Readers: **Karla Hays, Neil James, Jill James, Deborah Kelly,
Dave Park, Betsy Cook**

Band: **Joey Carano, Pete Harrison, Nathan Hubbard**

Flute: **Lori Lorenz**

Ensembles: **Chancel Choir, Youth Choir**

Tech Team: **Riley McKenna, Lee & Berdi Meehan,
Aidan Williams, Amy Wazny**