

ENCOUNTER

A MID-WEEK SERVICE OF PRAYER AND PRESENCE

Gathering Music

Welcome

Gathering Hymn: God of the Sparrow

Roeder

**God of the sparrow God of the whale God of the swirling stars
How does the creature say Awe How does the creature say Praise**

**God of the earthquake God of the storm God of the trumpet blast
How does the creature cry Woe How does the creature cry Save**

**God of the rainbow God of the cross God of the empty grave
How does the creature say Grace How does the creature say Thanks.**

**God of the hungry God of the sick God of the prodigal
How does the creature say Care How does the creature say Life**

**God of the neighbor God of the foe God of the pruning hook
How does the creature say Love How does the creature say Peace**

**God of the ages God near at hand God of the loving heart
How do your children say Joy How do your children say Home**

Opening Prayer

One: God of dreamers and doubters, worriers and wanderers,

ALL: **remind us of your presence with us this night.**

One: From the pinnacle to the pit, help us step out in faith,

ALL: **and trust in the depths of your grace.**

Prayer of Confession

We have strayed, O God, from your will and your way.

**We have betrayed family and friends
and used others to suit our purposes.**

**We have forgotten our faith
and we have failed you and each other.**

Heal us, O God.

Silent Confession and Words of Assurance

Scripture: Genesis 37:1-4, 12-24

Encountering the Scripture

Reflection and Response

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn: Amazing Grace

Amazing Grace

**Amazing grace! How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found; was blind but now I see.**

**'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.**

**Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come;
'tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, and grace will bring me
home.**

**The Lord has promised good to me, his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be, as long as life endures.**

**When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise then when we'd first begun.**

Benediction

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The Opening Prayer is adapted from a resource by Thom Shuman on his
Lectionary Liturgies blog. The Prayer of Confession is adapted from a prayer by
Erik Alsgaard on the Ministry Matters website.