

## **Call to Worship**

Leader: Loving God, Creator of heaven and earth; like a mother You feed us with gifts that sustain our bodies and enrich our lives.

**People: We praise You, God of creation, for the bounty of Your Goodness. We give thanks for those who have taught us. Your gifts are for all people.**

Leader: God of compassion, You chose women and men and made them alive to Your love. They have spoken Your truth; they marked places with stones as signs of Your presence.

**People: We thank You, Eternal God, for people faithful to Your truth; they have been symbols of Your presence, as the body of Christ.**

Leader: God of redemption, You came to us, as one like us, calling us to be Your community of priests. Sisters and brothers, we are called...

**People: Called to follow Jesus. What a challenge! What an opportunity!**

Leader: Called to move, as he did, among the people; to feel with them, to care for them; to touch them and be touched by them.

**People: Called to name, as he did, the oppressions that destroy our world; those of which we are already aware, and those whose injustices we have not yet learned to recognize or name.**

Leader: Called to discern those gifts of life God has hidden deep within each of us.

**People: Called to discover and share those gifts of our hearts, our hands, our whole selves.**

Leader: Called to place our gifts in God's hands – the holy hands from which they came. Called to follow Jesus ...

**People: And yes, we can answer; we can follow, because we have been called first to love.**

Leader: Called to be God's children.

**People: Called by name.**

*\*Shared with permission from the ordination service of Jessica Schirm.*