

# Opening Worship



# GREETING

I greet you in the name of God,  
whose grace and love is the source of immeasurable freedom  
God be with you.  
**And also with you.**



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Both Jesus and the apostolic Scriptures admonish Christians to bring forth the works of love.

Relying on the mercy and promises of God we acknowledge the *[local First Peoples of the land]*,

committing ourselves again to the works of love: healing, justice and reconciliation.

*(JDDJ 37, 34)*



# CONFESSION

God, you call us to a Christian life lived in faith, hope and love.

Forgive us for the absences of these in our lives.

Forgive us for when we have not lived and acted in the grace we have received in Christ.

Forgive us for when our branches have been bare and good fruit has not been forthcoming.

By your grace equip us now to bring forth the works of love which are the gifts of your Holy Spirit.

*(JDDJ paragraph 37)*



# WORD OF GRACE

Together we confess:

By grace alone, in faith in Christ's saving work and not because of any merit on our part, we are accepted by God and receive the Holy Spirit, who renews our hearts while equipping and calling us to good works.

*(Joint Declaration paragraph 15)*

Therefore we are confident to say:

**Our sins are forgiven!**

**Our hopes are restored!**

**Thanks be to God!**



# THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**



## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We confess together** that we depend completely on the saving grace of God for our salvation.

Justification takes place solely by God's grace.

*(JDDJ 19)*



## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We confess together** that God forgives sin by grace and at the same time frees human beings from sin's enslaving power and imparts the gift of new life in Christ.

*(JDDJ 22)*





## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We confess together** that we can rely on the mercy and promises of God. In the strength of Christ's death and resurrection we can build on the effective promise of God's grace in Word and Sacrament and so be sure of this grace.

*(JDDJ 34)*



# SENDING OUT OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

As we go into this presbytery meeting and then into the world:

We ask the Holy Spirit to lead us further toward that visible unity which is Christ's will.

We ask the Holy Spirit to lead us further towards a Christian life lived in faith, hope and love.

We ask the Holy Spirit to enable us to bring forth the works of love as we live into God's gift of grace.

*(JDDJ 37)*

