Call to Worship:
Leader: Brothers and sisters, we are gathered here to share God’s story,

**People:** A story of freedom from slavery, and of steadfast love.
Leader: We witness to the good news of Jesus and his love,

**People:** A love which extends to all people in all places.
Leader: We share in this story because it is our story, as well;

**People:** We are the family of God, sharing with and caring for one another.
Leader: Let us celebrate all the gifts that we bring for the sake of God’s kingdom.

**All:** Thanks be to God! Amen.

Invocation prayer (in unison):
Embracing God, we praise you for your redeeming love, and for your faithfulness to us. We thank you for making us a part of your story, for calling sons and daughters, for giving us a new identity as your beloved children. Help us extend your love to others. Clothe us with your compassion, kindness, and forgiveness so that everyone may see our love for each other through your Son, Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.