

**Welcome! No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.**

**Prelude**

**Chimes**

**Welcome & Sharing Our Service and Friendship Opportunities**

**\* Greeting One Another**

**\* Song** *O God, Our Help in Ages Past* St. Anne

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,  
Our shelter from the stormy blast and our eternal home;  
Under the shadow of your throne your saints have dwelt secure;  
Sufficient is your arm alone, and our defense is sure.  
Before the hills in order stood or earth received its frame,  
From everlasting you are God, to endless years the same.  
O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,  
Still be our God while troubles last, and our eternal home!

**Opening Prayer and the Lord's Prayer [ using "trespasses" ]**

Almighty and Everlasting God, you are our help and our hope. You are the Source of our lives and the destiny of our souls. As we come now to worship you, remind us that you our strength. Defend us from falling for false gods and keep us seeking to do your will as we strive to follow the way of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who taught us to pray, "*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.*" Amen.

**Receiving our Tithes and Offerings**

**Offertory**

**\* Doxology & Prayer of Dedication**

Heavenly Father, we have received blessing upon blessing from your gracious hand. We bring these tithes and offerings to your altar as a sign of our gratitude and our commitment to the ministry of our church and our church's wider mission. Bless and use our offerings and ourselves as we bring them to you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

**A Time with the Children** – children are invited to join Dr. Havens on the steps at the front. Afterwards they may return to sit with their families or go to Faith Formation or the nursery.

**\* Song** *Honor and Praise*

Righteous and holy in all of your ways, we come before you with honor and praise.  
Here to adore you for all of our days, we come before you with honor and praise.

**Chorus**

Lord of the heavens, how faithful you are. Shine down upon us, oh bright morning star. Righteous and holy in all of your ways, we come before you with honor and praise.

Filling the temple, the work of your grace, we come before you with honor and praise. Here to adore you for all of our days, we come before you with honor and praise.

**Chorus**

Lord of the heavens, how faithful you are. Rise in our spirits, oh bright morning star. Righteous and holy in all of your ways, we come before you with honor and praise.

Here to adore you for all of our days, we come before you with honor and praise. Honor and praise, honor and praise. Righteous and holy, we come before you. Righteous and holy, honor and praise.

**Pastoral Prayer, Silent Prayer & Choral Amen**

**Scripture Lesson** Ephesians 6:10-20 *NT page 195*

**Choral Anthem** *God is Here!* Drennan/Shafferman

**The Message** "Is Our Defense Sure?" Bruce Havens  
Theme: QUESTIONS WE MUST ASK

**\* Song** *Be Now My Vision* Slane

Be now my vision, O God of my heart; nothing surpasses the love you impart –  
You my best thought, by day or by night, waking or sleeping, your presence my light.

Riches I heed not, nor life's empty praise, you, my inheritance, now and always;  
You and you only are first in my heart, great God my treasure may we never part.

Sovereign of heaven, my victory won, may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall; still be my vision, O Ruler of All.

**\* Benediction**

**\* Congregational Response** *Alleluia* [ *joining hands* ]

**Postlude** *ALL MUSIC LICENSED UNDER CCLI #639547*

\*Those who are able, please stand.

**WE BELIEVE GOD IS STILL SPEAKING**, and we invite you to partner with us in the mission and ministry of Arlington Congregational Church. Speak with Dr. Havens to find out more!