**Formed to Live Joyfully**

**Our Time, Talent, and Treasure**

**Missioning-Forth Prayer Service**

**Gathering Song**: The Summons (Video)

**Leader**: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**All:** Amen.

**Reading:** 1 Corinthians 12:27-31

A reading form the Letter of Paul to the Corinthians

Now you are the body of Christ, and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first of all apostles, second, prophets, third teachers, then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.

The Word of the Lord.

**All:** Thanks be to God.

**Leader:** The Holy Spirit has poured out God’s love upon us and enables us to call upon the Father, as we pray:

**All:** Gracious God, hear us.

**Reader #1**: May the Church be filled with the transformative power of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord…

**All**: Gracious God, hear us.

**Reader #1**: May our time of prayer help us to embrace Christ with our whole hearts, let us pray to the Lord…

**All:** Gracious God, hear us.

**Reader #1**: May this retreat enable us to be confident in our actions to work with your Spirit and bring others closer to Jesus and our Church, let us pray to the Lord…

**All:** Gracious God, hear us.

**Reader #1**: May your blessings be sealed with an anointing with oil so that we may be ever more compelled to serve God as minsters of mercy, compassion, and love, let us pray to the Lord…

**All**: Gracious God, hear us.

**Leade**r: Gracious and loving God, you anointed priests, prophets, and kings of old with the oil of gladness. You infuse your Church with the gifts of the Holy Spirit. We pray that as we journey on from today, we will be effective signs of the love that you pour forth into our hearts. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Leader: Let us prepare our hearts to be empowered by Christ’s Spirit; to journey with Him, and to be send on a mission in His name.

We welcome the gifts given to us in baptism, celebrated with the Holy Spirit in Confirmation, and nourished through the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist.

**All:** **Set your hearts, set your hearts on the gifts that help the people of God**.

Reader #2: My gifts are centered on sharing the gospel message. I see myself comfortable in sharing with others as it may happen, without a pre-determined design. I am a good listener who enables others to be who they are and, more important, to help them accept who they are. I do so without judgment or question. The fruits of the Spirit are love, joy, peace, patience, endurance, kindness, generosity, faith, mildness, and chastity. Against such there is no law! Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified their flesh with its passions and desires. Since we live in the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit’s lead. Let us never be boastful, or challenging or jealous toward one another. Together, let us proclaim…

**All: Set your hearts, set your hearts on the gifts that help the people of God.**

**Reader #4**: My gifts are centered on questions leading to story. My comfort is with asking what and why – how has our history brought us to our current beliefs? Let us, then, be children no longer, tossed here and there, carried about by every wind of doctrine that originates in human trickery and skill in proposing error. Rather, let us profess the truth in love and grow into the full maturity of Christ the head. Through him the whole body grows, and with the proper functioning of the members joined firmly together by each supporting ligament, builds itself up in love. Together, let us proclaim…

**All: Set your hearts, set your hearts on the gifts that help the people of God**

**Reader #5:** My gifts are centered on providing hospitality. My comfort is in being the welcoming face that brings people together to often share in good company, in common message, and in intimate life reflections. There are different gifts, but the same Spirit, there are different ministries, but the same Lord; there are different works but, the same God who accomplishes all of them in everyone. To each person the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. Together, let us proclaim…

**All:** **Set your hearts, set your hearts on the gifts that help the people of God.**

**Reader #6:** Just as each of us has one body with many members, with not all of the members have the same function, so, too, are we, though many, one body in Christ and individually members of one another. We have gifts that differ according to the favor bestowed upon each of us. Together, let us proclaim…

**All:** **Set your hearts, set your hearts on the gifts that help the people of God**

**Leader:** Lord, Jesus Christ, Pour out your Spirit upon our families and our friends. Grant peace and joy in the loving service we give to one another.

Pour out your Spirit upon the sick and the suffering. Grant consolation, hope, and healing through your presence and love.

Pour out your Spirit upon those who have died, and upon those who wander far from you. Bring us all at last into your glorious light.

Holy Spirit, draw us closer to Jesus. Bring us together, as one family, one community of love.

Good and gracious God, thank you for Jesus who is your most precious gift and blessing. We are one with each other in love – made one in Christ, God’s precious gift to us. May this unity grow into the fullness of Christ’s loving union with you, His Father.

Amen.

**Leader:** Go forth and spread the Gospel message to all in words and actions.

**All:** Thanks be to God.

**Missioning-Forth Song**: We Are Called (Video – Words on Screen)