

# HEARTS



MATTHEW 13:1-9, 18-23

# Call to Worship

Leader: Sin is always at work to counteract the good news of Christ.

**People: But thanks be to God, the church is always at work, too! And we are glad to be a part of it.**

Leader: Amen! No matter how ineffective our efforts may seem, there is always fertile soil which bears fruit for our labors.

**People: We will continue to sow the seed of faith, convinced that many will be receptive and come into our Lord's kingdom.**

# Call to Worship

## **Prayer of Confession:**

**We are easily discouraged, Father, when we look back a few years and see how the church used to be the center of community life.**

**We feel the church today is on the other edge of existence for many people, and defeat haunts our aspirations.**

# Call to Worship

**Forgive us for submitting to such hopelessness,  
when Christ has assured us of victory.**

**Lead us through our barren valley of depression  
to the fertile soil where hearts are waiting to be  
won to Christ our Savior through whom we  
pray.      Amen.**

I believe in God  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ  
his only Son our Lord:  
who was conceived by the  
Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead,  
and buried;

the third day he rose  
from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth at the right hand  
of God the Father Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to  
judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.



# Glory Be to the Father

WORDS: Lesser Doxology, 3rd-4th cent.

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Glory be to the Father  
and to the Son  
and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now and ever shall be,  
world without end.  
Amen. Amen.