

2014 Worship Resources ❖ from Bethany Seminary

Responsive Call to Worship:

- One: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come into God's presence with singing
- All: Know that the Lord is God. It is God that made us, and we belong to our creator; we are God's people, and the sheep of God's pasture.
- One: Enter God's gates with thanksgiving, and the divine courts with praise. Give thanks and bless God's holy name.
- All: For the Lord is good; God's steadfast love endures forever, and God's faithfulness to all generations.

Adapted from Psalm 100 by Alexandre Conçalves (MDiv student, Brazil) for the inauguration of Jeff Carter as president of Bethany Seminary; Used with permission

Recommended Hymn: 🎵 "I love to tell the story" #398 in *Hymnal, A Worship Book*

Invocation Prayer:

As we worship you with joy and thanksgiving, give us courage to witness to your faithfulness with our actions and our voices. Remind us of the old story that is ever new, of Jesus's compassion for each sheep of his pasture. Come into our presence, making your steadfast love known in the deepest parts of who we are, so that we may share that love through our witness.

Invitation to Give:

Witness is more than words; it includes words that inspire action. Think of the many ways this congregation acts out its witness to the love and faithfulness of Jesus. By giving generously of our resources and our time, we put into action the witness of the story of God's love and faithfulness. I invite you into active participation in the unfolding story of God's work in the world through the witness you share with your gifts this morning.

Scripture: 1 John 1:1-2 (NRSV)

"We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us."