



Sunday, May 9, 2021

Welcome!

We are thankful that you are worshiping with us today! To learn more about the life of our congregation, join our email list [here](#).

Here are some helpful resources for our younger worshippers:

[This Week's Children's Bulletin](#) | [Worship Worksheet for Kids](#)

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

10:30 A.M.

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

*CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather to worship as people of Easter,
people who know Life is stronger than death.
We gather to worship as children of God,
children loved and claimed by the risen Lord.
We gather to worship as the body of Christ,
the church called out for service in the world.
Easter people, Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed!

*OPENING PRAYER

O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you, that, loving you above all else, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

*HYMN 241

Woman, Weeping in the Garden

alt tune: STUTTGART

1. Woman, weeping in the garden, who has pushed the stone aside?
Who has taken Jesus' body, Jesus Christ the crucified?
2. Woman, waiting in the garden, after men have come and gone,
after angels give their witness, silently you watch the dawn.

3. Woman, walking in the garden, Jesus takes you by surprise;
when the gardener calls you, "Mary!" faith and joy meet in your eyes.
4. Woman, weeping in the garden, weep for joy for you have seen
Jesus, the Messiah, risen; Christ, of whom the prophets dream.
5. Woman, dancing from the garden, find the others and proclaim
Christ is risen as he promised; tell the world he knew your name!

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

May God be with you in worship here.

May God be with you in worship there.

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

Rom. 8:26

The Spirit of God helps us in our weakness, interceding with sighs too deep for words.
Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave, you shattered the power of sin and death. We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We overlook the poor and the hungry, and pass by those who mourn; we are deaf to the cries of the oppressed, and indifferent to calls for peace; we despise the weak, and abuse the earth you made. Forgive us, God of mercy. Help us to trust your power to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the joy of life abundant given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord. Amen.

POURING OF THE BAPTISMAL WATERS

Remember your baptism and be thankful!

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Acts 2:17, 21

Hear the good news of God's promise: I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh. Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **Thanks be to God.**

*GLORIA PATRI

GREATOREX

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.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Since we have been reconciled to God, let us also be reconciled to one another.

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

*SUNG RESPONSE (Hymn 39)

FAITHFULNESS

1. Great is thy faithfulness, O God Creator;
there is no shadow of turning with thee.

Thou changest not; thy compassions they fail not.
As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

Refrain:

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning, new mercies I see.
All I have needed thy hand hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

2. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow:
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! *Refrain*

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Living God, with joy we celebrate the presence of your risen Word. Enliven our hearts by your Holy Spirit so that we may proclaim the good news of eternal and abundant life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

Acts 9:36-42

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Acts 16:11-15

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Sammie Smith

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from A Brief Statement of Faith

In life and in death we belong to God. We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal. We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still. We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles claims us in the waters of baptism and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

THE EUCHARIST

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

MUSIC FOR THE OFFERING

*THE DOXOLOGY (Hymn 606)

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise...

...who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er, God of might,
hea - ven and the earth are full of your glo - ry, love, and light.
Bles - sed is the one who comes in your ho - ly name, O Lord.
Ho - sa - na in the high - est! Ho - sa - na in the high - est!

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD & THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Here at this table we celebrate resurrection as you feed us with bread and wine. And as much as we might prefer to stay here in this protected place, you send us back to our work – only it is no longer the same work because we know you are with us and in us, shaping and transforming us to be your witnesses in the world. Nourished in body, mind, and spirit, may all that we say and do give you glory. Amen.

THE SENDING

*HYMN

Come, Celebrate the Women

ELLACOMBE

1. Come, celebrate the women who brought the Church to birth!
the gentle revolution that shall transform the earth:
whose faith was salt and leaven, whose hearts and minds were free,
and this was their direction—to peace and unity.
2. The teachers, saints, and mothers who lived and died unsung
kept safe the gospel story and taught it to the young;
the Christ child Mary cradled, the living Word to be
was crucified for pleading this peace and unity.
3. Daughters of the disciples, you weave the story still,
the fabric of the future with warmth and love and skill,
you make the bread of wholeness, the wine of harmony –
and all shall share your feasting in peace and unity.

Text: Shirley Erena Murray, 1992

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

**Rise in body or spirit*

LEADING OUR WORSHIP TODAY

PREACHING

Sammy Smith

PRESIDING AT THE TABLE

Dennis Jewett, Director of Music

ASSISTING

Jeff Moles, Director of Christian Education & Mission
Stephanie Dube, Director of Youth Ministries & Weekday School

LITURGIST

Suzanne Guyer

MUSICIANS

Choral Scholars