



May 12, 2024 Seventh Sunday of Easter Ascension Day

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## PRELUDE / COUNTDOWN

WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS WELCOMING OF GUESTS

Pastor Pastor

PASSING THE PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP / CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

Liturgist

(Inspired by passages Ephesians 2:14, John 17, Galatians 3:28, Romans 12:5)

Liturgist: God, we believe you have called us to unity, but often we have isolated ourselves from others.

Congregation: God, forgive us for the times we have turned our backs on those who are different.

Liturgist: God, we believe you have called us to live together as one body,

Congregation: God, forgive us for the times we have created division within your worldwide church.

Liturgist: God, we believe you ask us to look, listen, and learn from others,

Congregation: God, forgive us for the times we have ridiculed and attacked those with different viewpoints.

Liturgist: God, we believe you ask us to accept and seek to understand all who are called by your name,

Congregation: Forgive us for the times we have offended you by failing to love others as we do ourselves.

Liturgist: God, we believe you call us to be one even as you are one,

Congregation: Forgive us for the disunity we have harbored and make us one.

\*HYMN OF PRAISE

Faith of Our Mothers

See screen

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: Easter Affirmation

Liturgist

Your light is the only light we need as we travel through life's mystery. Your word is the only voice we hear, that still small voice that leads us to the place where we should be. Your presence is the only company we need as we walk this narrow road. Your fellowship is the warmth we crave to help us on our way. May the truth of Easter, the joy of Easter, and the blessings of Easter be with us this day and all days. Amen

\*GLORIA PATRI

See screen

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Psalm 47 (NKJV)

Liturgist

To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of the sons of Korah. Oh, clap your hands, all you peoples! Shout to God with the voice of triumph! <sup>2</sup> For the LORD Most High *is* awesome; *He is* a great King over all the earth. <sup>3</sup> He will subdue the peoples under us, And the nations under our feet. <sup>4</sup> He will choose our inheritance for us, The excellence of Jacob whom He loves. Selah <sup>5</sup> God has gone up with a shout, The LORD with the sound of a trumpet. <sup>6</sup> Sing praises to God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing praises! <sup>7</sup> For God *is* the King of all the earth; Sing praises with understanding.

\*Please stand as you are able

<sup>8</sup> God reigns over the nations; God sits on His holy throne. <sup>9</sup> The princes of the people have gathered together, The people of the God of Abraham. For the shields of the earth *belong* to God; He is greatly exalted.

Liturgist: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

Congregation: Thanks be to God

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Pastor

## CHILDREN'S PRAYER

God, as we search for the path that will lead us safely through this world, we place our trust in You and ask for Your guidance and protection. In Jesus' name. Amen.

GOSPEL READING Luke 24:44-53 (NKJV)

Liturgist

Then He said to them, "These *are* the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and *the* Prophets and *the* Psalms concerning Me." <sup>45</sup> And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures. <sup>46</sup> Then He said to them, "Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, <sup>47</sup> "and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup> "And you are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup> "Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high." <sup>50</sup> And He led them out as far as Bethany, and He lifted up His hands and blessed them. <sup>51</sup> Now it came to pass, while He blessed them, that He was parted from them and carried up into heaven. <sup>52</sup> And they worshiped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, <sup>53</sup> and were continually in the temple praising and blessing God. Amen.

Liturgist: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

MISSION MOMENT

PRESENTATION OF PRAYERS AND PRAISE

Pastor

If you have a prayer need or praise that you would like to share with the congregation, please fill out a card and pass it toward the center aisle of the congregation as we are singing the Hymn of Preparation. The pastor will collect the cards during the song and pray over the cards at the chancel rail.

\*HYMN OF PREPARATION

Praise to the Lord, The Almighty (v.1-5)

UMH#139

PASTORAL PRAYER

**Pastor** 

SERMON ANTHEM

Beloved
(Mark Miller)

Choir

**SERMON** 

Pastor

Title: Living the Resurrection

Theme: We Are Yours

Purpose: Making disciples of Jesus Christ. It is who we are. We belong to Christ.

RECEIVING OF TITHES AND SACRIFICES (Celebrating Our Gifts)

OFFERTRORY PRAYER

Loving God of both comfort and challenge; we have been blessed to know the feeling of being surrounded in your loving arms like a child. Yet we also know that is not a place we can stay. You send us to be part of the world – with all its ugliness, anger, hate, deceit, and betrayals – but not of the world. You call us to give, so that love, compassion, and hope might be set loose. We are not giving as those who are of the world – expecting to receive in the transaction. We give instead out of gratitude for your loving heart, made known to us in Christ. Use us in this way, we pray in the blessed name of Christ, who by your love overcame death. Amen.

COLLECTION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

\*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings

See screen

\*HYMN OF CELEBRATION

Because He Lives (v. 1-3)

UMH #364

\*COMMISION / BENEDICTION (Based on John 15:9-17)

Pastor

Pastor: Let us go forth into the new seasons of our lives.

Congregation: We go forth into growing and changing and living.

Pastor: Let us go with caring awareness for the world and all that is in it.

Congregation: We go to discover the needs and opportunities around us.

Pastor: Let us go forth in peace and be led out in joy.

All: We go in God's continuing presence, with the power to love and the strength to serve. Amen.

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Love and Fellowship

See screen

**POSTLUDE**