

**Fifth Sunday of Easter
April 28, 2024**

Gathering
God invites us to enter His presence

Prelude *Hymn Medley*
 flute duet

Welcome & Announcements

Preparation for Worship (*Time for Silent Preparation*)

 **Call to Worship** (*Responsively*) *Susan Obenschain*

Let us worship God, our light and our salvation.
The Lord is the stronghold of our lives.
We desire to live in God's house
and to seek God in his holy temple.
**We have come with shouts of joy,
to sing and to make music to the Lord.**
Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.
**Teach us your ways and make straight our paths
in this hour of worship and always.**
—based on Psalm 27; John 4:23

 **Invocation** *Susan Obenschain*

Show us the way to fullness of life, Lord Jesus;
that our hearts might be filled with joy, hope, and peace, we pray;
that we might respond to opportunities, we pray;
that we might be strengthened to face challenges, we pray;
that we might become the persons we are called to be, we pray;
that we might learn to respect our sisters and brothers, we pray;
that we might see the needs of others and give help, we pray. **Amen.**

 **Opening Song** *His Mercy is More*

*What love could remember no wrongs we have done?
Omniscient, all knowing, He counts not their sum.
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore,
Our sins, they are many; His mercy is more.*

*Chorus
Praise the Lord, His mercy is more.
Stronger than darkness, new ev'ry morn.
Our sins, they are many;
His mercy is more. Praise the mercy is more.*

*What patience would wait as we constantly roam?
What Father, so tender, is calling us home?
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor.
Our sins, they are many; His mercy is more.*

Chorus

*What riches of kindness He lavished on us.
His blood was the payment; His life was the cost.
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford.
Our sins they are many: His mercy is more.*

Chorus

Confessing **God invites us to be honest with Him**

Call to Confession

Susan Obenschain

The proof of God's amazing love is this: While we were sinners, Christ died for us. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Trusting in God's faithfulness and compassion, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

—based on Romans 5:8; Hebrews 4:16, NRSV

Prayer of Confession

Susan Obenschain

Gracious God, who pours out freely the gift of your Holy Spirit: we confess before you and to each other that we have failed to recognize this most precious gift. We have been satisfied with ordinary things, suspicious of unfamiliar things, and blind to spiritual things. Cleanse us, O God, with your celestial fire. Burn away our presumptuous self-sufficiency, and open us in faith to receive the renewing touch of your hand. **Amen.**

Time for Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Susan Obenschain

Through Jesus Christ forgiveness of sins
is proclaimed to you.
In Christ we have redemption through his blood,
the forgiveness of our trespasses,
according to the riches of his grace.

—from Acts 13:38; Ephesians 1:7, NRSV

Leader: *This is the Promise of the Lord*
All: **Thanks be to God!**

 **Gloria Patri**

*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.
A-men, A-men.*

Offering

Thankful of the gifts God has given us, we offer ourselves to Him

Invitation As we come before God with our tithes and offerings, let us remember the words of Micah 6: What does the Lord require of us? To act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with our God. Thus we bring our money, gifts, and whole lives as an offering to our God.

Offering

Offertory *Rondo* *Kuhlau*
(Sarah Deal, Flute)

 **Doxology**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. A-men.*


 **Prayer of Dedication**

Merciful Father, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions—signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us—Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

 **Preparation Hymn 615** *Spirit Divine, Hear Our Prayer*

Proclaiming
God speaks to us through His Word

Children's Sermon *King David's Prayer* *Celia Weber*

 **Illumination Hymn 247** *Spirit of the Living God, Fall Afresh on Me*

Scripture Reading

Psalm 51, Acts 2:37-41

¹ Be gracious to me, God,
according to your faithful love;
according to your abundant compassion,
blot out my rebellion.
² Completely wash away my guilt
and cleanse me from my sin.
³ For I am conscious of my rebellion,
and my sin is always before me.
⁴ Against you—you alone—I have sinned
and done this evil in your sight.
So you are right when you pass sentence;
you are blameless when you judge.
⁵ Indeed, I was guilty when I was born;
I was sinful when my mother conceived me.
⁶ Surely you desire integrity in the inner self,
and you teach me wisdom deep within.
⁷ Purify me with hyssop, and I will be clean;
wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.
⁸ Let me hear joy and gladness;
let the bones you have crushed rejoice.
⁹ Turn your face away from my sins
and blot out all my guilt.
¹⁰ God, create a clean heart for me
and renew a steadfast spirit within me.
¹¹ Do not banish me from your presence
or take your Holy Spirit from me.
¹² Restore the joy of your salvation to me,
and sustain me by giving me a willing spirit.
¹³ Then I will teach the rebellious your ways,
and sinners will return to you.
¹⁴ Save me from the guilt of bloodshed, God—
God of my salvation—
and my tongue will sing of your righteousness.
¹⁵ Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth will declare your praise.
¹⁶ You do not want a sacrifice, or I would give it;
you are not pleased with a burnt offering.
¹⁷ The sacrifice pleasing to God is a broken spirit.
You will not despise a broken and humbled heart, God.
¹⁸ In your good pleasure, cause Zion to prosper;
build the walls of Jerusalem.
¹⁹ Then you will delight in righteous sacrifices,
whole burnt offerings;
then bulls will be offered on your altar.

³⁷ When they heard this, they were pierced to the heart and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles,
“Brothers, what should we do?”

³⁸ Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, each of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ For the promise is for you and for your children, and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call." ⁴⁰ With many other words he testified and strongly urged them, saying, "Be saved from this corrupt generation!" ⁴¹ So those who accepted his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand people were added to them.

Sermon

"Repentance and the Spirit"
Rev. Tim Latham



Hymn of Response 202 *Amazing Grace*

Responding *We respond to God's Word*



Profession of Faith

**We believe there is no condemnation
for those who are in Christ Jesus;
for we know that all things work together for good
for those who love God,
who are called according to God's purpose.
We are convinced that neither death, nor life,
nor angels, nor rulers,
nor things present, nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of God
in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

—from Romans 8:1, 28, 38-39, NRSV

Prayers of the People

Commissioning *God sends us out into the world as His witnesses*



Commission Song *Jesus, I Come*

Verse 1
Out of my bondage sorrow and night
Jesus I come Jesus I come
Into Thy freedom gladness and light
Jesus I come to Thee
Out of my sickness into Thy health
Out of my wanting and into Thy wealth
Out of my sin and into Thyself
Jesus I come to Thee

Verse 2
Out of my shameful failure and loss
Jesus I come Jesus I come
Into the glorious gain of Thy cross
Jesus I come to Thee

*Out of earths sorrows into Thy balm
Out of lifes storms and into Thy calm
Out of distress into jubilant psalm
Jesus I come to Thee*

Verse 3

*Out of unrest and arrogant pride
Jesus I come Jesus I come
Into Thy blessed will to abide
Jesus I come to Thee
Out of myself to dwell in Thy love
Out of despair into raptures above
Upward forever on wings like a dove
Jesus I come to Thee*

Verse 4

*Out of the fear and dread of the tomb
Jesus I come Jesus I come
Into the joy and light of Thy home
Jesus I come to Thee
Out of the depths of ruin untold
Into the peace of Thy sheltering fold
Ever Thy glorious face to behold
Jesus I come to Thee*

 **Benediction & Blessing**

 **Postlude**