Second Sunday of Easter April 27, 2025

Gathering God invites us to enter His presence

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Preparation for Worship (Time for Silent Preparation)

Y Call to Worship (Responsively)

Jim Fox

This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

-Psalm 118:24, NRSV

Invocation (Responsively)

Jim Fox

O God, you summon the day to dawn, you teach the morning to waken the earth. For you the valleys shall sing for joy, the trees of the field shall clap their hands. For you the kings of the earth shall bow, the poor and the persecuted shall shout for joy. Your love and mercy shall last forever, fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise. Great is your love. Amen.

Opening Hymn 25

Immortal, Invisible

Confessing God invites us to be honest with Him

Call to Confession Jim Fox

"Come now, let us settle the matter," says the LORD.

"Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool."

—Isaiah 1:18, NIV

Prayer of Confession

Jim Fox

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. **Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,**

and cleanse me from my sin.

For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment.

You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.

Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. **Do not cast me from your presence,**

and do not take your holy spirit from me.

-Psalm 51:1-4, 6, 9-11, NRSV

Time for Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Jim Fox

The LORD is faithful in all his words, and gracious in all his deeds.
The LORD upholds all who are falling, and raises up all who are bowed down.

—Psalm 145:13-14, 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.

Passing of the Peace

Leader: The Peace of the Lord be with You

All: And also with you

Offering

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

Invitation The earth is the LORD's and all that is in it,

the world, and those who live in it.

-Psalm 24:1, NRSV

Offering

Offertory

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 (Responsively)

Blessed are you, God of all creation; through your goodness we have these gifts to share. Accept and use our offerings for your glory and for the service of your kingdom. Blessed be God forever. Amen.

Praise Hymn 251 Breathe on Me

Proclaiming God speaks to us through His Word

Scripture Reading

John 20:19-22

- ¹⁹ When it was evening on that first day of the week, the disciples were gathered together with the doors locked because they feared the Jews. Jesus came, stood among them, and said to them, "Peace be with you."
- ²⁰ Having said this, he showed them his hands and his side. So the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.
- ²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, I also send you." ²² After saying this, he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit.

Sermon

"Jesus in the Midst" Rev. Dr. Dennis Lesher

Song of Response

All I Have is Christ

Verse 1

I once was lost in darkest night yet thought I knew the way, The sin that promised joy and life had led me to the grave. I had no hope that you would own a rebel to Your will, And if you had no loved me first I would refuse you still.

Verse 2

But as I ran my hellbound race, indif'rent to the cost, You looked upon my helpless state, and led me to the cross. And I beheld God's love displayed, You suffered in my place; You bore the wrath reserved for me, now all I know is Grace!

Chorus

Hallelujah! All I have is Christ! Hallelujah! Jesus is my life!

Verse 3

Now, Lord I would be Yours alone and live so all might see, The strength to follow Your commands could never come from me. O Father use my ransomed life in any way you choose, And let my song forever be; My only boast is You!

Chorus (2x)

Responding We respond to God's Word

Profession of Faith (In Unison)

This is the good news that we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved, if we hold it fast: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day, and that he appeared first to the women, then to Peter, and to the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses.

We believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God.

Jesus Christ is the first and the last, the beginning and the end; he is our Lord and our God.

-based on Matthew 16:16; Mark 16:9; John 20:28; 1 Corinthians 15:1-6; Revelation 22:13

Prayers of the People

Ever-faithful God, you have knit together as one body in Christ those who have been your people in all times and places. Keep us in communion with all your saints, following their example of faith and life, until that day when all your saints will dwell together in the joy of your eternal kingdom. Through Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Commissioning God sends us out into the world as His witnesses

Commission Song

Mighty to Save

Ev'ryone needs compassion Love that's never failing Let mercy fall on me Ev'ryone needs forgiveness The kindness of a Saviour The hope of nations

Chorus

Saviour He can move the mountains My God is mighty to save He is mighty to save Forever Author of salvation He rose and conquered the grave Jesus conquered the grave

Take me as You find me All my fears and failures Fill my life again I give my life to follow Ev'rything I believe in Now I surrender

Chorus

Bridge
Shine your light and let the whole world see
We're singing
For the glory of the risen King
Jesus
Shine your light and let the whole world see
We're singing
For the glory of the risen King

Chorus

Benediction & Blessing

