Third Sunday of Easter May 4, 2025

Gathering God invites us to enter His presence

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Preparation for Worship (Time for Silent Preparation)

Call to Worship (Responsively)

Bonnie Mecaughey

Our hearts are ready, O Lord, our hearts are ready! We will sing and make melody! We will awaken the dawn! We will give thanks to you, O Lord, among the peoples, we will sing praises to you among the nations. For your steadfast love is great above the heavens, and your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.

—based on Psalm 108:1-4

Invocation (Responsively)

Bonnie Mecaughey

Holy and loving God, we come to you, with hopes and fears, with convictions and doubts, with pain and joy. By your Spirit, help us to see all things in the light of your Word, our Lord Jesus Christ.

By your Spirit,

help us to pray honestly, to listen attentively, to encourage one another warmly.

By your Spirit,

help us grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns forever. All glory to you, both now and forever! Amen.

Opening Hymn 4

How Great thou Art

Confessing God invites us to be honest with Him

Call to Confession

Bonnie Mecaughey

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 (Responsively)

Bonnie Mecaughey

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD.

Lord, hear my voice!

Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand?

But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered.

I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I hope;

my soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning, more than those who watch for the morning.

O Israel, hope in the LORD!

For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is great power to redeem. It is he who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities.

-Psalm 130, NRSV

Time for Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Bonnie Mecaughey

I will cleanse them from all the guilt of their sin against me, and I will forgive all the guilt of their sin and rebellion against me.

-Jeremiah 33:8, 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 Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and pay your

vows to the Most High.

-Psalm 50:14, NRSV

Offering

Offertory Jesus, Messiah by Tomlin

Bill Mecaughey

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.**

Praise Song

Before the Throne of God Above

Verse 1
Before the throne of God above
I have a strong and perfect plea
A great High Priest whose name is Love
Who ever lives and pleads for me
My name is graven on His hands
My name is written on His heart
I know that while in heav'n He stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart
No tongue can bid me thence depart

Chorus
Hallelujah
My life is found in Jesus Christ
Hallelujah
For I am His and He is mine

Verse 2
When Satan tempts me to despair
And tells me of the guilt within
Upward I look and see Him there
Who made an end to all my sin
Because the sinless Saviour died

My sinful soul is counted free For God the Just is satisfied To look on Him and pardon me To look on Him and pardon me

Verse 3
Behold Him there the risen Lamb
My perfect spotless righteousness
The great unchangeable I Am
The King of glory and of grace
One with Himself I cannot die
My soul is purchased with His blood
My life is hid with Christ on high
With Christ my Saviour and my God
With Christ my Saviour and my God

Verse 4
I bow before the cross of Christ
And marvel at this love divine
God's perfect Son was sacrificed
To make me righteous in God's eyes
This river's depths I cannot know
But I can glory in its flood
The Lord Most High has bowed down low
And poured on me His glorious love
And poured on me His glorious love

<u>Proclaiming</u> God speaks to us through His Word

Scripture Reading

John 13:31-35

³¹ When he had left, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man is glorified, and God is glorified in him. ³² If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³ Little children, I am with you a little while longer. You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so now I tell you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.'

³⁴ "I give you a new command: Love one another. Just as I have loved you, you are also to love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

Sermon

"By This Everyone Will Know" Rev. Tim Latham

Hymn of Response 284

They'll Know We are Christians by Our Love

Sacrament of Communion

Leader: The Lord be with you. **People: And also with you.**Leader: Lift up your hearts!

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God!

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise!

Invitation to the Table

Leader: For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you

proclaim the Lord's death until He comes Again!

People: Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come

again!

Responding We respond to God's Word

Profession of Faith (In Unison) Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, died, and buried; He descended into hell; The third day he rose from the dead; He ascended into heaven, And sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, The holy catholic church, The communion of saints, The forgiveness of sins, The resurrection of the body,

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

And the life everlasting. Amen.

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