

Welcome to Worship! | May 14, 2023 | Sixth Sunday of Easter

It is good you are here! Please silence all electronic devices.

GATHERING

Prelude Mit Freuden Zart

James Biery

Welcome

Moment for Mission

*Call to Worship

Praise the Lord, all the earth!

Praise the Lord from the heavens;
praise the Lord in the heights.

Praise the name of the Lord,
and the Lord's glory shall be praised,
for people near and people far,
for people present and people to come,
for the young and for those wise with age.
Come, let us praise the Lord;
Come, let us worship God!

*Gathering Prayer

*Hymn 645 Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above (Come forward with the 5-Cents-A-Meal Offering)

Prayer of Confession

Holy One, we love you imperfectly: we do not always keep your commandments. We love each other imperfectly: we hurt those you call us to love through our actions and our inaction. We love ourselves imperfectly: we struggle to believe that we are truly your children, made in your image. Forgive us. By the power of your Spirit, make us more faithful that we might live and love as Christ has shown us, reflecting your love and grace.

Assurance of Forgiveness

*Sung Response 441 Hear the Good News of Salvation (vs 1)

Hear the good news of salvation: Jesus died to show God's love. Such great kindness! Such great mercy! Come to us from heaven above. Jesus Christ, how much I love you! Jesus Christ, you save from sin! How I love you! Look upon me. Love me still and cleanse within.

*Sharing the Peace of Christ

Leader: The Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

WORD

Scripture Readings: Exodus 20:1-17

John 14:15-21

Sermon The epidemic of loneliness and the Spirit of love

^{*}Please stand as you are able.

*Hymn 177 / Will Come to You (You are Mine)

*Verses - Leader

*Refrain - Congregation

Refrain: Do not be afraid, I am with you. I have called you each by name. Come and follow me, I will bring you home; I love you and you are mine.

*Affirmation of Faith: Brief Statement of Faith

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church.

The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the church.

In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage

to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives,

even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

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.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

THANKSGIVING

Offering and Passing of Friendship Pads

Offertory Simple Praise

arr. Craig Courtney

*Doxology 606

*Prayer of Dedication

SENDING

- *Hymn 366 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling
- *Blessing
- *Dismissal

We stand while the bell is rung three times, remembering that God, Creator, Redeemer and Renewer of Life, goes with us. Go in peace!

Postlude Trumpet Tune in C

David N. Johnson

Worship Leaders

Head Pastor, Rev. Katherine B. Harrington Parish Associate, Rev. Dr. Gary Smith Director of Music, Cindy Litzinger Guest Choir Director, Johannes Bron Organist/Pianist, Sara Bryant Adult Choir Lay Reader, Carol Query

Our Mission

Inspiring one another to love Jesus by staying faithfully present in our community.