

GATHERING FOR THE WORD

Let us take this time to quiet our hearts and minds and prepare for worship.

* Please stand if able • Plain text = Leader • **Bold text = People**

PRELUDE *Chanson* Gordon Young

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS The Rev. Dr. Laura S. Sugg

* CALL TO WORSHIP (Please stand) Elder

The Lord is risen! Alleluia!

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

There is no greater love than this:

To lay down one's life for one's friends.

Let us worship God.

* HYMN *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing* No. 356

CALL TO PRAYER & PRAYER FOR RENEWAL (Please be seated, unison) Elder

The Spirit of God helps us in our weakness, interceding with sighs too deep for words. Trusting in God's grace, let us pray...

God of all hope and joy, we confess that we continue to live in fear.

You raised Jesus to new life, yet we hold onto former things.

You offer salvation to all, yet we fail to share this good news.

Forgive us, God of grace.

By your Spirit, make us witnesses to the wonder of the empty tomb and the fullness of life you promise; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

(A time for silent prayer)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

Amen. Hear the good news of God's promise: I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh. Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God.

SUNG RESPONSE (Stand as desired.) refrain, No. 122

Thine is the glory Risen, conquering Son;

Endless is the victory Thou o'er death hast won.

HEARING THE WORD

EPISTLE READING 1 John 1-5 Pg. 231

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** Deacon

ANTHEM *I Will Look to the Hills* Charles Garner

GOSPEL READING John 15:9-17 Pg. 104

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

TIME WITH CHILDREN & YOUTH (*As children & youth come forward, please sing.*)

This, this is where children belong, part of our family, part of our song.

Be with us, pray with us, help us grow strong, this is where children belong.

SERMON *Friends* Laura Sugg

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Please Stand) Elder

Life in Christ is life eternal.

The resurrection of Jesus is the sign that God will consummate the work of creation and reconciliation beyond death and bring to fulfillment the new life begun in Christ.

--Adapted from *the Confession of 1967*, 9.26

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER Front of Hymnal Pg. 16

(*Pray, "Forgive us our sins..."*)

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

OFFERTORY *Reflection* Mark Hayes

* PRESENTATION OF OFFERING verse 1

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,

and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,

and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

Holy One, whose heart abounds with gifts,

receive this offering as a sign of our intention to live

surrounded by your mercy, inspired by your Spirit,

open to the joy of your presence, hospitable to one another,

and generous toward your world. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Invitation to the Lord's Table
Prayer of Thanksgiving
Words of Institution
Serving Communion

Bread and/or gluten -free wafer is taken individually.

*Wait to take juice/wine together. Red wine is in outer ring of tray,
white grape juice is in the middle ring, and water in the center of the tray.*

Prayer after Communion (unison)

**Holy God, by the gift of your Spirit,
you have nourished and filled us.**

**Now send us out to share the vision of new creation
you have begun; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

* HYMN *For Everyone Born* (see insert) GTG No. 769

* CHARGE & BLESSING

* SUNG CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE refrain, No. 106

***Alleluia, Alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.
Alleluia, Alleluia! Give praise to his name.***

POSTLUDE *Cortege* Gordon Young

Please come through to Fellowship Hall for refreshments and conversation.

Pulpit Elder: Allan Hills Deacon Reader: Jeff Stimson
Greeters: Jim & Betty Niquette Sound Engineer: Jim Niquette
Ushers: Kerry Gardner & Jeff Stimson Time With Children & Youth: Linda Val
Flowers: Maxine Foster Visitor Desk: Ruth Breckon
Communion servers: Bob Brown, Jo Ann Flores, Lori Golightly, Nancy Rosi

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Director of Christian Education, Children & Youth: *Linda Valo*

Organist, Hand Bell Choir Director: *Julie Pulliam, M.A.*

Choir Director: *Katie Sakanai, M.M.Ed.*

Treasurer: *Eileen Gardner, C.P.A.* • Assistant Treasurer: *Betsy Smith*

Administrative Assistant: *Jenny Garner*



*WPC Mission Statement:
To worship God through faith and action,
to nurture the spirit of Jesus Christ in each of us,
to be an extended family to all,
and to serve the community
through programs, education, and prayer.*

***Sixth Sunday of Easter
May 6, 2018***