# FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
# MAY 15, 2022
## 11:00 AM

**PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP**

To pray is to take notice of the wonder, to regain the sense of the mystery that animates all beings, the divine margin in all attainments. Prayer is our humble answer to the inconceivable surprise of living. It is all we can offer in return for the mystery by which we live. Who is worthy to be present at the constant unfolding of time?

Abraham Joshua Heschel, 1907-1972

**CHURCH LIFE UPDATE** — Margaret LaMotte Torrence

**PRELUDE** — *It Is Well with My Soul* — arr. Held
(Jim Johnston, organist)

*** CALL TO WORSHIP** — Jeremiah 29:11-14
George Chorba

For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord,
plans for your welfare and not for harm,
to give you a future with hope.

**Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me,**
**I will hear you.**
**When you search for me, you will find me;**
**if you seek me with all your heart,**
**I will let you find me, says the Lord.**

*** HYMN 475** — *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing* — NETTLETON

Come, thou Fount of every blessing;
Tune my heart to sing thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
Sung by flaming tongues above;
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
Mount of God's unchanging love!

Here I raise my Ebenezer;
hither by thy help I'm come;
And I hope, by thy good pleasure,
Safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wandering from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger,
Interposed his precious blood. ***(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)***

** Those who are able are invited to stand.*

O to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace now, like a fetter,
Bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
Prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart; O take and seal it;
Seal it for thy courts above.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** Margaret LaMotte Torrence

**Gracious Creator,**
**You formed us and called us good;**
**you gave us your work to do.**
**Forgive us for failing to embrace the life you offer.**
**Forgive us for imagining that we are not enough.**

**Merciful, life-giving God,**
**make us bold,**
**for the sake of the world you love.**

*(silent prayer)*

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

***SONG OF JOY 65 (vv. 1 & 2)** *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah* CWM RHONDDA

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
Pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but thou art mighty.
Hold me with thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
Feed me till I want no more;
Feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain,
Whence the healing stream doth flow.
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,
Be thou still my strength and shield;
Be thou still my strength and shield.

***THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**SCRIPTURE READING** John 13:31-35

**SERMON** *What Matters Most* Margaret LaMotte Torrence

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** 1 Corinthians 13:4-8
George Chorba

**Love is patient; love is kind;**
**love is not envious or boastful**
**or arrogant or rude.**
**It does not insist on its own way;**
**it is not irritable or resentful;**
**it does not rejoice in wrongdoing,**
**but rejoices in the truth.**
**It bears all things, believes all things,**
**hopes all things, endures all things.**
**Love never ends.**

**SOLO** *Psalm 121* Carol Hawkinson
(Carrie Mills, soloist)

The Lord is your keeper,
The Lord is your shade on your right hand.
The sun shall not smite you by day,
Nor the moon by night.
The Lord will keep you from all evil,
He will keep your life.
The Lord will keep your going out,
And your coming in from this time forth,
And forever.
The Lord is your keeper;
He will keep your soul.

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER** Margaret LaMotte Torrence

**Our Father who art in heaven,**
**hallowed be thy name,**
**thy kingdom come, thy will be done,**
**on earth as it is in heaven.**
**Give us this day our daily bread;**
**and forgive us our debts**
**as we forgive our debtors;**
**and lead us not into temptation,**
**but deliver us from evil.**
**For thine is the kingdom and the power**
**and the glory, forever. Amen.**

***HYMN 366** *Loves Divine, All Loves Excelling* HYFRYDOL

Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heaven, to earth come down,
Fix in us thy humble dwelling;
All thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion;
Pure, unbounded love thou art;
Visit us with thy salvation;
Enter every trembling heart. ***(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)***

Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit
Into every troubled breast;
Let us all in thee inherit;
Let us find the promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning,
Set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty, to deliver;
Let us all thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never,
Nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve thee as thy hosts above,
Pray, and praise thee without ceasing,
Glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation;
Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see thy great salvation
Perfectly restored in thee:
Changed from glory into glory,
Till in heaven we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise.

***BENEDICTION** Margaret LaMotte Torrence

**POSTLUDE** *Piccola Fanfara* Bossi
(Jim Johnston, organist)