

First Presbyterian Church of Bethlehem

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Digital Traditional Service

May 2, 2021

The Service for the Lord's Day



WE GATHER

PRELUDE Prelude on "Morning Has Broken"

arr. Fredrick Bock

CALL TO WORSHIP AND PASSING THE PEACE

OPENING HYMN

#376

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

HYFRYDOL

1 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.

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

3 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.

4 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.

WE CONFESS

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, as John's first letter tells us, your love was revealed among us in this way: by sending your only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In Christ we receive the fullness of love that you have for us; in Christ you call us to share your love with others. But we confess that we often turn away from your love: we turn towards fear, towards selfishness, towards division with others. Forgive us, Lord, and help us to love one another, our neighbors, and you because you love us so much, and so that we may be more like Christ in our lives and ministry.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

WE LISTEN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE: 1 John 4:7-21

Don Masters

Leader: The word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

SERMON

The Rev. J.C. Austin

"The End of Love"

WE RESPOND

HYMN

#171

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

ST. COLUMBA

Verses 1-4

1 The King of love my Shepherd is,
Whose goodness faileth never;

I nothing lack if I am His
And He is mine forever.

2 Where streams of living water flow
My ransomed soul He leadeth,
And where the verdant pastures grow,
With food celestial feedeth.

3 Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,
But yet in love He sought me,
And on His shoulder gently laid,
And home, rejoicing, brought me.

4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill
With Thee, dear Lord, beside me;
Thy rod and staff my comfort still,
Thy cross before to guide me.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL FOR OFFERING

Call to Give

Offertory "Deep River"

arr. Mark Hayes

Rebecca Erhardt, Soprano

*Response - #592

OLD HUNDREDTH

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

*Prayer of Dedication

WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give thanks and praise.

Leader: It is truly right and our greatest joy to
give you thanks and praise...

As our Savior Christ has taught us,
so now we pray:

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Words of Institution

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

2. Meditation, from 10 Miniatures for Organ

Ernest Bryson

CLOSING HYMN

#524

Holy Spirit, Lord of Love

SALZBURG

1 Holy Spirit, Lord of love,
Who descended from above,
Gifts of blessing to bestow
On Your waiting church below,
Once again in love draw near
To Your servants gathered here;
From their bright baptismal day
You have led them on their way.

2 When the sacred vow is made,
When the hands on them are laid,
Come in this most solemn hour
With Your strengthening gift of power.
Give them light Your truth to see;
Give them life Your own to be,
Daily power to conquer sin,
Patient faith the crown to win.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Postlude on "All Creatures of Our God and King"

arr. David N. Johnson