FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF BETHLEHEM

Second Sunday After Easter
Traditional Service
May 1, 2022

The Service for the Lord's Day

WE GATHER

PRELUDE "When Morning Gilds the Skies" Peter C. Lutkin

WELCOME AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: When we are behind locked doors of fear and anxiety,
People: Christ comes to us, bringing comfort and peace.
Leader: When we withdraw behind walls of doubt and despair,
People: Christ comes to us, bringing assurance and hope.
Leader: Come, let us rejoice in the presence of our Risen Lord!
People: Come, let us worship God!

*GATHERING HYMN #122
Thine is the Glory JUDAS MACCABEUS

1 Thine is the glory,
Risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the victory
Thou o'er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment
Rolled the stone away,
Kept the folded grave clothes
Where Thy body lay.

Refrain:
Thine is the glory,
Risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the victory
Thou o'er death hast won.

*Please stand if you are able.

2 Lo! Jesus meets us,
Risen from the tomb;
Lovingly He greets us,
Scatters fear and gloom.
Let the church with gladness
Hymns of triumph sing,
For the Lord now liveth;
Death hath lost its sting. [Refrain]

3 No more we doubt Thee,
Glorious Prince of life!
Life is naught without Thee;
Aid us in our strife.
Make us more than conquerors
Through Thy deathless love;
Bring us safe through Jordan
To Thy home above. [Refrain]

CALL TO CONFESSON

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious and Loving God: in the season of Easter, we celebrate the good news of Christ's resurrection, and the victory over sin and death that he has won for us. And yet we fail to share that good news in our daily lives. We remain silent when we could speak, and whisper when we should shout. We talk boldly among ourselves, but grow hesitant when we go out into the world. Forgive us, Lord; renew in us a confidence to live out your good news in our words and our actions every day, that we and others may truly hear it and be transformed by it into instruments of your peace.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

WE LISTEN

CHILDREN'S SERMON

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE Luke 24:36-49 Phil Fair

Leader: The word of the Lord
People: Thanks be to God

SERMON The Rev. J.C. Austin

"Unfinished Business"

WE RESPOND

*SERMON HYMN #313

Come Down, O Love Divine DOWN AMPNEY

1 Come down, O Love divine,
Seek out this soul of mine
And visit it with Your own ardor glowing;
O Comforter, draw near,
Within my heart appear,
And kindle it, Your holy flame bestowing.

2 O let it freely burn,
Till earthly passions turn
To dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
And let Your glorious light
Shine ever on my sight,
And clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

3 And so the yearning strong
With which the soul will long
Shall far outpass the power of human telling;
For none can guess God's grace,
Till Love creates a place
Wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (From A 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!"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTE FOR MISSION Dr. Bob Yoder

"The Barn/Blank Slate Community Garden"

CALL FOR OFFERING

Call to Give

Offertory Chancel Choir

*Doxology #592

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving

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 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

Communion Music "Miniature No. 9" Paul Manz

*SENDING HYMN #504

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether UNION SEMINARY

1 Draw us in the Spirit's tether,
for when humbly in your name
two or three are met together,
you are in the midst of them.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Touch we now your garment's hem.

2 As disciples used to gather
in the name of Christ to sup,
then with thanks to God the giver
break the bread and bless the cup,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
so now bind our friendship up.

3 All our meals and all our living
make as sacraments of you,
that by caring, helping, giving,
we may be disciples true.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
We will serve with faith anew.

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Fanfare" from *5 Works for Organ* Healey Willan

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