

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Third Sunday of Easter

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

God wants us to know that life is a series of beginnings, not endings. Just as graduations are not terminations, but commencements. Creation is an ongoing process, and when we create a perfect world where love and compassion are shared by all, suffering will cease. ~Bernie Siegel

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND LIFE IN THE CHURCH

INTROIT

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Christ asked Peter if he loved him.

People: Peter affirmed three times his love of the Lord.

Leader: Christ asks us if we love him.

People: We affirm our love of the Lord in our worship and in our lives.

Leader: Christ calls us to demonstrate our love in service.

People: Lord, help us to witness to your love in the ways in which we care for others. May all the world know we are Christians by our love!

*HYMN

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

GG: 438

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

We rejoice in the wonder of your resurrection, O Christ, but now two weeks have passed and we tend to sink back into our old ways of thinking, behaving, and responding to people's needs. We can dance with the angels and all humankind on Easter Sunday, but in the days following the Day of Resurrection we tend to slip back into our old apathy and cynicism. Forgive us when we so easily become distracted by our own cares and worries that we ignore the needs of others around us. Forgive us when we forget Your resurrection power and abiding love for us. Fill us up, O Lord! Set our hearts to dancing! Give us a spirit for rejoicing, a

vision of hope, and willing hearts and hands for helping. May we learn what it means to tend, love and feed Your sheep.

(A time of silent confession)

Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Leader: Sing! Shout! Rejoice! Jesus calls you to serve because of his love for you. He believes in you and all the gifts you have been given! Do not be afraid. Christ is with you always.

People: We lift our voices high! Alleluia! Our sins are forgiven and we are unbound and embraced in God's love.

*RESPONSE

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah! (sing twice)

GG: 591

**All: Halle, halle, hallelujah! Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: Hear the teaching of Christ: A new command I give you, that you love one another as I have loved you. The peace of Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us share the peace of Christ with one another!

HEARING THE WORD

ANTHEM

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

*HYMN

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

GG: 834

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 36:5-9, pg. 510

SCRIPTURE: John 21:1-17, pg. 115

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“Feed My Sheep”

Rev. Abbie Huff

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

*All who are able please stand.

***Latecomers seated

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* tune GG: 606

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

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

All: **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.**

GOING OUT INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN
300

We Are One in the Spirit

GG:

*BENEDICTION