

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Seventh Sunday of Easter

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Mama was my greatest teacher, a teacher of compassion, love and fearlessness. If love is sweet as a flower, then my mother is that sweet flower of love.

~Stevie Wonder

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND LIFE IN THE CHURCH

INTROIT *A Joyful Introit* Praetorius

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: It is not difficult to be God's beloved child!

People: We are called to obey God's commandments and live in God's love!

Leader: The ways that God ordains are ways of peace and hope.

People: The love of God shall conquer the world.

Leader: Rejoice, O people of God, for God is near!

People: Praise the God of comfort, curiosity and care. Let us live into God's love and peace.

*HYMN *All Things Bright and Beautiful* GG: 20

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Patient and forgiving God, we come to You this day. For many this is a celebration of Mother's Day and all that our mothers have given to us and taught us. And we confess that we too often do not show our gratitude for the depth of life that they have sacrificed for us. For others, these memories are painful, mothers who were not always there for us when we needed them, or for those who were not able to be parents. Make today a day when each of us is redeemed. Remind us that Your blessings are poured out in many ways, through many people. Give us the confident faith that reaches beyond our own lives to help others. Forgive us when we sink into our own selfishness and pettiness. For it is in those times that we turn

our back on You. Bring us back to You, to the awareness of Your eternal love.

(A time of silent confession)

Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Christ, our cornerstone and our salvation, offers to us hope and comfort in the forgiveness of our sins.

People: On this Mother's Day Sunday, this festival of Christian love, help us to make our home in you. Amen.

*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 *Consider The Lilies* Emma Lou Diemer

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

*HYMN *Like a Mother Who Has Borne Us* GG: 44

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE: Proverbs 6:20-21, pg. 589

SCRIPTURE: 2 Timothy 1:1-7, pg. 211

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Bach

Prelude in F Major

J. S.

SERMON

“Your Mother’s Teaching”

Pastor Abbie Huff

*All who are able please stand.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *I Think When I Read That Sweet Story Of Old* Emma Lou Diemer

*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

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

GG: 611

*BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Amen

Natalie Sleeth