

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

May 12, 2019 – Fourth Sunday of Easter

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*Grace must find expression in life, otherwise it is not grace.* ~Karl Barth

PRELUDE *Praise My Soul, the King Of Heaven* setting by R.H. Haan

WELCOME AND LIFE IN THE CHURCH

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INTROIT

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: You are the Good Shepherd, Lord,

**People: We hear your call;**

Leader: We know your voice;

**People: We follow your paths.**

Leader: You lead us beside still waters.

**People: You guide us to the springs of life.**

Leader: You shelter us and restore our souls.

**People: In you we find life everlasting.**

Leader: We come humbly into your presence this day,  
in praise, worship, and adoration.

**People: Our hearts run over with your unfailing goodness  
and never-ending love. Thanks be to God, now and always.**

\*HYMN *Arise, Your Light Is Come!* GG: 744

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

**Anger, hatred, anguish blare at us from the newspapers, media. The shouts of hurt and pain harden our hearts, merciful God. We cannot bear the hurts, so we turn away. We hide and want the hurt to disappear. We struggle with the chaos of our daily lives and our souls long for a place of peace. We think that one more thing, one more purchase, one more achievement will finally bring us happiness. But you**

**instill your peace within us, and we need not look for it elsewhere. We know that we will have struggles and hard times, but help us, Lord, to place our lives in your care, to trust in your comfort and guidance. Forgive our stubborn resistance to your compassionate love. Heal us again and place us on the right path.**

*(A moment for silent examination and confession.)*

*Amen.*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Do not fear! You can place your trust in God, for God will lead you, comfort you, protect you. You are not alone to face all the difficulties of life. God is with you and will lift you up.

**People: We rejoice, for we are loved by God.**

\*RSPONSE *We Are Forgiven* GG: 447

**All: We are forgiven. We are forgiven.  
Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.  
We are forgiven. We are forgiven.  
Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.**

\*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 *Ev'ry Valley* by G. F. Handel from the Messiah

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

\*HYMN *You Shall Go Out with Joy* GG: 80

GOING OUT INTO THE WORLD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE: I Peter 4:8, pg. 235

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 17:15-19, pg.13

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

SERMON "Mothers of the Faith" Rev. Abbie Huff

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Serenity* setting by R. H. Haan

\*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;  
Creator, Christ, 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.**

\*HYMN *My Life Flows On* GG: 821

\*BENEDICTION *We give Thanks unto You* GG: 75

POSTLUDE *Prelude and Fugue in B flat Major* J. S. Bach

\*All who are able please stand. \*\*\*Latecomers seated.