

## GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

Fifth Sunday of Easter

### PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*Sometimes, reaching out and taking someone's hand is the beginning of a journey. At other times, it is allowing another to take yours.*

~ Vera Nazarian, *The Perpetual Calendar of Inspiration*

### PRELUDE

*Adagio*

John Bennet

### WELCOME AND LIFE IN THE CHURCH

### INTROIT

*Hail Thee Festival Day*

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We are marked as God's beloved ones.

**All: What have we done to deserve God's love?**

One: We need to do nothing to earn God's love. It is a free gift. God has chosen us before we could even make our first decision.

**All: God has put God's seal upon us, taken us for God's own.**

One: God's love touches every aspect of our life, pouring over us like a waterfall.

**All: We lift our hands, our prayers, our hearts, our voices and worship the God who is ever faithful to us.**

### \*HYMN

*Baptized in Water*

GG: 482

### OPENING PRAYER

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 2:4-7

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

**We wake up each morning, our baptismal promise renewed, a world of hope and**

**awe around us; yet too often all we can think about is our own problems, our own needs, our own desires. Help us to desire you, Lord. Help us to yearn for your presence, your touch in our lives. Pour your baptismal waters over us again, cleansing us from self-centeredness and indifference. Wash away our flaws and all negative thoughts and behaviors that stand in the way of our truly being the people you have called us to be. Again let us receive the blessings of our baptism, wash us clean, resurrect us into life with you, for you have claimed and chosen us in your grace.**

*(A time of silent confession)*

*Amen.*

### WORDS OF ASSURANCE

One: God's hand is upon us, God sees us as we truly are and loves us all the more.

**All: Rejoice! We are set free in God's grace, forgiven and beloved.**

### \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: 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.

**All: And also with you!**

One: Let us share the peace of Christ with one another.

## HEARING THE WORD

### ANTHEM

*My Tribute*

Andrea Crouch, arr. F. Bock

### A TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM – Rembrandt Winchester Rios

Godparents – Aaron Rinaldi Luna, Megan Elizabeth Fay

### \*HYMN

*Wash, O God, Your Sons and Daughters*

GG: 490

GOING OUT INTO THE WORLD

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 3:13-17

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON           “Opening Our Senses: Reach Out and Touch Life”  
Pastor Abbie Huff

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

OFFERING

OFFERTORY                   *Flute Solo*                   Thomas Arne

\*DOXOLOGY           *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

**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.**

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

*Take My Life*

GG: 697

\*BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

*Alleluia*

POSTLUDE

*Voluntary in D minor*

Willim Boyce

\*All who are able please stand.