

P. Let us pray as our Savior taught us...

--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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen

--WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Please sit

--SONGS FOR DISTRIBUTION "Come As You Are"

(Psalm 55:22; Matthew 11:28; James 5:19-20; Hebrews 6:19a; 1 Timothy 4:10)

Verse 1... Come out of sadness from wherever you've been, come brokenhearted; let rescue begin. Come find your mercy, oh sinner come kneel, earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal. Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal.

Chorus... So lay down your burdens; lay down your shame. All who are broken lift up your face. Oh wanderer come home, you're not too far. So lay down your hurt, lay down your heart; come as you are.

Verse 2... There's hope for the hopeless, and all those who've strayed. Come sit at the table; come taste the grace. There's rest for the weary, rest that endures; earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't cure. Chorus...

Bridge... Come as you are. Fall in His arms. Come as you are.

Verse 3... There's joy for the morning, oh sinner be still earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal. Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal. Chorus...

Tag... Come as you are. Come as you are.

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"Spirit of the Living God"

Chorus... Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. *[Repeat]*

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--COMMUNION DISMISSAL

P. The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart in peace.

--BENEDICTION

P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C. Amen.

--CLOSING SONG

"Open Up the Heavens" *(Malachi 3:10; Daniel 7:10)*

Verse 1... We've waited for this day; we're gathered in Your Name, calling out to You. Your glory, like a fire, awakening desire, will burn our hearts with Truth. You're the reason we're here. You're the reason we're singing.

Chorus... Open up the heavens; we want to see You. Open up the floodgates: a mighty river flowing from Your heart, filling every part of our praise.

Verse 2... Your presence in this place, Your glory on our face, we're looking to the sky. Descending like a cloud, You're standing with us now; Lord, unveil our eyes. You're the reason we're here. You're the reason we're singing. Sing Chorus twice, then...

Bridge... Show us, show us Your glory. Show us, show us Your power. Show us, show us Your glory, Lord. Repeat Bridge, then...

Channel... We want to see You. We want to see You. Sing Chorus twice...

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P. Go in peace and serve the Lord!

C. Thanks be to God!

*** * * TO GOD BE THE GLORY * * ***

Pastor The Rev. Peter Gueldner **Elder** Wayne Meyer
Music Connection Team **Worship Assistant** Mark Prieve
Soundboard Robert Sommers **Lectors** Maggie & Nicolai Reindl

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THE CONNECTION

April 7, 2024 10:30am



The Sacrament Of The Altar will be celebrated at the 10:30 AM service. Anyone who is not yet instructed, in doubt or holds a differing confession and yet desires to receive the Sacrament, is asked first to speak with a Pastor, Elder or Worship Assistant.

--PRESERVICE SONG "Draw Me Close to You"

--ANNOUNCEMENTS

--WORSHIP SONG "Mighty to Save"

Verse 1... Ev'ryone needs compassion, a love that's never failing. Let mercy fall on me. Ev'ryone needs forgiveness, the kindness of a Savior, the hope of nations.

Chorus... Savior, He can move the mountains. My God is mighty to save. He is mighty to save. Forever, Author of salvation, He rose and conquered the grave. Jesus conquered the grave.

Verse 2... So take me as You find me, all my fears and failures; fill my life again. I give my life to follow ev'rything I believe in. Now, I surrender. Yes, I surrender. Chorus..

Bridge... Shine your light and let the whole world see we're singing for the glory of the risen King Jesus. Shine your light and let the whole world see we're singing for the glory of the risen King.

Chorus...

Chorus 2... You're my Savior; You can move the mountains. God, You are mighty to save. You are mighty to save. Forever, Author of salvation, You rose and conquered the grave. Yes, You conquered the grave. You are mighty to save.

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(Please stand)

INVOCATION

P. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
C. Amen

--CONFESSION OF SINS

P. Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

C. Most merciful God, in Your kindness and love You have saved us. You've rescued us from the coldness of our sin. Yet, we still struggle to share Your warmth in our daily living. Our thoughts don't always follow Your thoughts. Our ways often stray from Your ways. We sin against not only You, but against our neighbors, as well. Forgive us, dear Lord. Wrap us securely in Your love and lead us in Your good ways. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

--FORGIVENESS OF SINS

P. Almighty God, in His mercy, has given His Son to die for you and for His sake He forgives you. As a called and ordained servant of the Lord, and on His behalf, I say to you, "You are forgiven." In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C. Amen.**

--STATEMENT OF WHAT WE BELIEVE

"This I Believe (The Creed)"

Verse 1...Our Father everlasting, the all creating One, God almighty. Through Your Holy Spirit, conceiving Christ the Son, Jesus our Savior.

Chorus...

I believe in God our Father, I believe in Christ the Son. I believe in the Holy Spirit, Our God is three in One. I believe in the resurrection, that we will rise again. For I believe in the name of Jesus.

Verse 2... Our Judge and our Defender, suffered and crucified, forgiveness is in You.

Descended into darkness,
You rose in glorious life, forever seated high. Chorus...

Chorus 2...

I believe in life eternal, I believe in the virgin birth. I believe in the saints' communion and in Your holy church. I believe in the resurrection, when Jesus comes again. For I believe in the name of Jesus. For I believe in the name of Jesus.

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(Please sit)

--FIRST LESSON Acts 4:32-35

³²The full number of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things that belonged to him was his own, but they had everything in common. ³³And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. ³⁴There was not a needy person among them,

(continued...)

for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold ³⁵and laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

L. Here ends the first reading.

--SECOND LESSON 1 John 1:1-2:2

¹That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— ²the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us— ³that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. ⁴And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

⁵This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. ⁶If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. ⁷But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

^{2:1}My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. ²He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

L. Here ends the second reading.

(Please stand)

--GOSPEL LESSON John 20:19-31

¹⁹On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." ²⁰When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side.

Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." ²²And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld."

²⁴Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe." *(continued...)*

²⁶Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

P. Here ends the reading of the Gospel.

(Please sit)

--CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

--OFFERING / MESSAGE SONG

"Open the Eyes of My Heart, Lord" *(Ephesians 1: 17-21)*

Chorus...Open the eyes of my heart, Lord, open the eyes of my heart; I want to see You, I want to see You. Open the eyes of my heart, Lord, open the eyes of my heart; I want to see You, I want to see You.

Verse...To see You high and lifted up, shining in the light of Your glory. Pour out Your pow'r and love; As we sing holy, holy, holy.

Sing Chorus, then Verse then...

Bridge...Holy, holy, holy; Holy, holy, holy; Holy, holy, holy, I want to see You. Repeat Bridge 3 times...

Tag...We want to see You.

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--MESSAGE OF THE DAY "PEACE BE WITH YOU"

(Text: John 20:19-21) The Rev. Peter Gueldner

(Please stand)

--PRAYERS

(Sung at beginning of prayers)

"The Spirit Intercedes For Us" *(Romans 8:26)*

The Spirit intercedes for us,
With sighs too deep for words to express, oh, oh, oh.

*The pastor will conclude the prayers with:
"Holy Spirit, in our weakness, help us to pray..."*

(Sung at end of the prayers)

"The Spirit Intercedes For Us" *(Romans 8:26)*

The Spirit intercedes for us,
With sighs too deep for words to express, oh, oh, oh.

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