

The beginning of the prelude is a call to silent, personal preparation for the worship of God.

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

Concerto in A Minor Antonio Vivaldi/Johann Sebastian Bach
Allegro

Introit :: “Be Not Afraid” Jacques Berthier
Be not afraid; sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia!

*Doxology (*sung*) The Hymnal, 609
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and Spirit one.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

*Invocation

*Hymn 246 “Christ Is Alive!”

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Holy and merciful God,
in your presence we confess
our failure to be what you created us to be.
You alone know how we have sinned
in wandering from your ways,
in wasting your gifts,
in forgetting your love.
By your loving mercy,
help us to live in your light
and abide in your ways,
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

*Stand as you are able.

Declaration of Pardon

Leader: *Friends, believe the good news:*

People: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

*Exchange of Peace

Leader: *The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.*

People: **And also with you.**

We invite you to greet those around you, wishing them “peace” or “the peace of Christ.”

Concerns of the Church

Anthem # “Easter Carol” William Sandys; arr. Richard Proulx

*On that bright joyful Easter Day the sun arose with brighter ray,
when Christ, to earthly sight made plain, the glad apostles saw again.*

Alleluia, Christ is risen today!

*His wounds to them Christ then did show, which from his risen body glow;
and they aloud declared and said, “The Lord is risen from the dead!”*

*First witnesses to Easter morn were women three who came forlorn;
then Magdalene did cease her sighs, when Christ she saw with joyful eyes.*

All glory, Lord, to you we pay, arisen from the dead today;

O great Creator, be our guide throughout the days of Eastertide.

Listening for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalter Psalm 18:1–8

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Easter Acclamation (*sung*) The Hymnal, 589
 Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia.
 Now the Lord is risen indeed.

Scripture Lesson # Galatians 2:15–21 New Testament, page 177

Sermon Rocky Supinger

Responding to the Word

*Hymn 239 “Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing!”

*Affirmation of Faith (*unison*) from the Heidelberg Catechism

Leader: *What is true faith?*

People: True faith is

not only a sure knowledge by which I hold as true
 all that God has revealed to us in Scripture;
 it is also wholehearted trust,
 which the Holy Spirit creates in me by the gospel,
 that God has freely granted,
 not only to others but to me also,
 forgiveness of sins,
 eternal righteousness,
 and salvation.

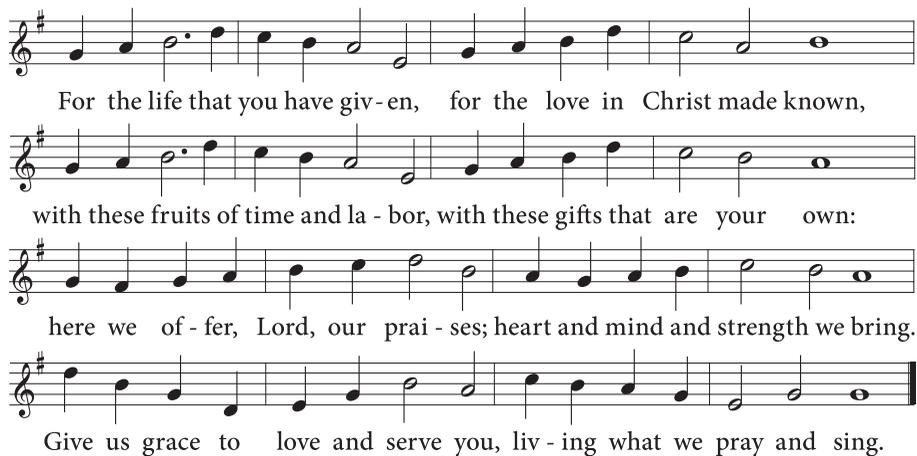
These are gifts of sheer grace,
 granted solely by Christ’s merit.

Offering

Offertory Solo

Concerto in A Minor Antonio Vivaldi/Johann Sebastian Bach
 Adagio

*Offertory Response



For the life that you have giv-en, for the love in Christ made known,
with these fruits of time and la - bor, with these gifts that are your own:
here we of - fer, Lord, our prai - ses; heart and mind and strength we bring.
Give us grace to love and serve you, liv - ing what we pray and sing.

Sealing the Word

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation

Great Thanksgiving

Leader: *The Lord be with you.*

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: *Lift up your hearts.*

People: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Leader: *Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.*

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Prayer

Leader: *It is truly right and our greatest joy . . . forever singing to the glory of your name:*

Sanctus (*sung*) The Hymnal, 552

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

Leader: . . . *Great is the mystery of faith:*

Memorial Acclamation (*sung*) The Hymnal, 553

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

The Lord’s Prayer (*unison*) The Hymnal, page 35

The Communion

Communion Anthem :: “May the Grace of Christ Our Savior” Simon Lole

May the grace of Christ our Savior, and the Father’s boundless love with the Holy Spirit’s favor, rest upon us from above. Thus may we abide in union, with each other and the Lord, and possess in sweet communion joys which earth cannot afford. To the God whose wisdom made us, to the Son who set us free, to the sanctifying Spirit, glory, endless glories be.

Prayer after Communion (*unison*)

**Lord God, in gratitude, in deep gratitude for this moment,
this meal, these people, we give ourselves to you.**

**Take us out to live as changed people
because we have shared the fruits of your creation
and cannot remain the same.**

**Ask much of us, expect much from us,
enable much by us, encourage many through us.**

**So Lord, may we live to your glory,
both as caretakers of earth
and citizens of the commonwealth of heaven. Amen.**

Bearing the Word into the World

*Hymn 248 “Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!”

*Benediction and Response

Postlude :: Fanfare William Mathias

Worship Leaders

Matt Helms, Connie Logelin, Rocky Supinger

The Music Today

Chancel Choir; Carol Carpenter, flutist
Thomas E. Gouwens, Associate Organist
Justin Taylor, Organ Scholar

Worship Notes

THIS MORNING, COMMUNION IS SERVED by intinction. The congregation comes forward by the center aisle to receive the bread, which they then dip into the chalice of grape juice. (Gluten-free bread is available in a small tumbler in each basket of bread.) Worshipers return to their pews by the side aisles.

The invitation to the Lord's Supper is not just for Presbyterians or "members of the church." All who confess Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord are invited to partake of the Lord's Supper.

DURING THE SEASON OF EASTER (lasting seven weeks, spanning the 50 days from Easter Sunday to Pentecost Sunday), we will make great use of the word *Alleluia*. Having fasted from the word Alleluia during the Season of Lent, our Doxology and Easter Acclamation (holding the place of the Gloria Patri) gives God thanksgiving for the gift of eternal life found in Christ's resurrection.

OUR "BIG QUESTIONS" SERMON SERIES, which continues today, invites us to explore the questions, topics, and biblical stories that members and friends have told us they would like to hear addressed from the pulpit. Today's question is "Are we saved?" Next week we will consider the question "How can we be Church with differing political views?"

THE BULLETIN COVER IMAGE depicts the top section of the Great East Window in the Sanctuary.

Shannon J. Kershner Pastor

Lucy Forster-Smith Senior Associate Pastor

Associate Pastors

Victoria G. Curtiss Mission

Matt Helms Children and Family Ministry

Nanette Sawyer Discipleship and Small Group Ministry

Rocky Supinger Youth Ministry

Judith L. Watt Pastoral Care

Joseph L. Morrow Minister for Evangelism

Jeffrey Doane Parish Associate for Older Adults

Abbi Heimach-Snipes Pastoral Resident

Shawn M. Fiedler Ministerial Associate for Worship

John Buchanan Pastor Emeritus

SOURCES AND CREDITS: Hymn tune names—as well as composers of the music and authors of the text—are listed in the hymnal with each hymn. The words to "For the Life that You Have Given" are by Carl P. Daw Jr. © 1987; music is by Morgan Simmons © 1990, 1992 Hope Publishing Co.

This worship bulletin is printed on acid-free paper. All bulletins and inserts left in the baskets by the doors are recycled.

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