

April 11, 2021

Before service speak silently to the Lord, during the service let the Lord speak powerfully to you.



Our Mission is to be a community of disciples with a heart for God and hands to help others.

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* = All who are able please stand **boldface** = congregation participates

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

God, allow your Holy Spirit to breathe into our lives your reassurance and love, that our minds might be opened and our hearts lifted to you. Strengthen us in our faith in order that we might welcome the risen one among us. Amen.

PRELUDE

Gathering in the Lord's Presence

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 133:1-3; John 20:21-22)

Leader: Peace be with you.

ALL: How good and pleasant it is when we live together in unity. Leader: Receive the Holy Spirit.

ALL: It is like precious oil on the head, the blessing of the Lord.

*ADMITTING OUR BROKEN RELATIONSHIPS 1 John 1:8-10

⁸If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

God, you have shown yourself to us by Word and Spirit, with signs and wonders, in flesh and blood, yet we still struggle to live and believe the good news of Jesus Christ. Have mercy on us. Forgive us. Enter into our lives and drive away the fear so that we may come to trust in you and have life in Jesus' name. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: This is the good news we have to declare: God leads us out of the shadows to walk in the light of Christ.

People: This is the word we have heard: Our faithful God forgives our sins and raises us to new life.

Leader: We remind ourselves: Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you. **People: And also with you!**

<u>Hearing the Word</u>

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE: John 20:19-31

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." ²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, 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 the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, 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. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt 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 come to believe." ³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

RESPONSE:

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE: Double Take

<u>Responding to the Word</u>

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – The Apostles' Creed I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,

> And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven,

and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

SONG: Because He Lives

OFFERING & PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Going Forth to Serve

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

LEADING IN WORSHIP

Lauren Cochran, Pastor Kurt Schweitz, *Messenger* Band Director Matt Parker Wrzeszcz, Associate Pastor