SPIRIT OF GRACE Fourth Sunday of Easter May 8, 2022

The congregation's parts are in **bold**. Masks are respectfully requested during singing.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

We Gather Together

WELCOME

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

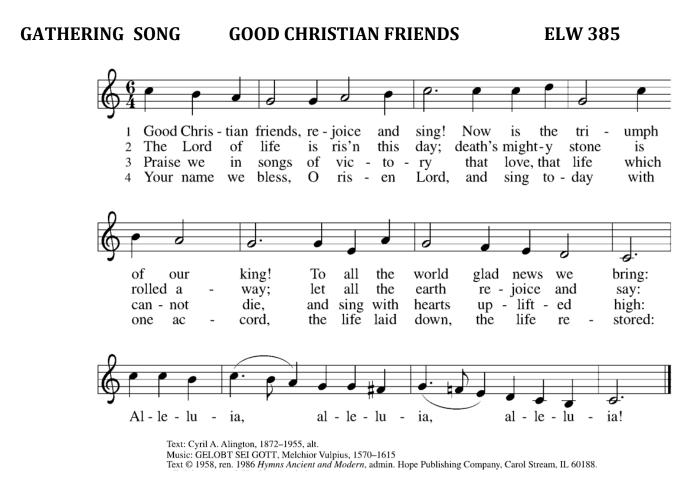
In the waters of baptism, we have passed over from death to life with Jesus Christ, and we are a new creation. For this saving mystery, and for this water, let us bless God, who was, who is, and who is to come.

We thank you, God, for your river of life, flowing freely from your throne: through the earth, through the city, through every living thing.

You rescued Noah and his family from the flood; You opened wide the sea for the Israelites. Now in these waters you flood us with mercy, and our sin is drowned forever. You open the gate of righteousness and we pass safely through.

In Jesus Christ, you calm and trouble the waters. You nourish us and enclose us in safety. You call us forth and send us out. In lush and barren places, you are with us. You have become our salvation. Now breathe upon this water and awaken your church once more. Claim us again as your beloved and holy people. Quench our thirst; cleanse our hearts; wipe away every tear.

To you, our Beginning and our End, our Shepherd and Lamb, be honor, glory, praise, and thanksgiving, now and forever. **Amen.**



GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

And also with you.

O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

<u>WORD</u>

FIRST READING: Acts 9:36-43

³⁶Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. ³⁷At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. ³⁸Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." ³⁹So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. ⁴⁰Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. ⁴²This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. ⁴³Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

Word God. Word of Life. Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 23

¹The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.
²The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.
³You restore my soul, O LORD, and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.
⁴Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.
⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,

and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever

SECOND READING: Revelation 7:9-17

⁹After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" ¹¹And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living

creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²singing,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor

and power and might

be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" ¹⁴I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵For this reason they are before the throne of God,

and worship him day and night within his temple,

and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

¹⁶They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;

the sun will not strike them,

nor any scorching heat;

¹⁷for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,

and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,

and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Word of God. Word of Life. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: John 10:22-30

Open your hearts and minds to the Good News as it is recorded in the 10th chapter of John. **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

²²At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. ²⁴So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." ²⁵Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; ²⁶but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. ²⁷My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. ³⁰The Father and I are one."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you Lord Christ.**

HYMN OF THE DAY

YOU ARE MINE

ELW 581

1 I will come to you in the silence I will lift you from all your fear You will hear My voice I claim you as My choice Be still, and know I am near

2 I am hope for all who are hopeless I am eyes for all who long to see In the shadows of the night, I will be your light Come and rest in Me

Do not be afraid, I am with you I have called you each by name Come and follow Me I will bring you home I love you and you are mine

3 I am strength for all the despairing Healing for the ones who dwell in shame All the blind will see, the lame will all run free And all will know My name. *Refrain*

4 I am the Word that leads all to freedom I am the peace the world cannot giveI will call your name, embracing all your pain Stand up, now, walk, and live. *Refrain*

Source: <u>Musixmatch</u> Songwriters: David Haas You Are Mine lyrics © Mca Music Publishing, A.d.o. Universal S, Debmar Publishing Co., Inc. One License 736683

NICENE CREED

We are an Easter people, with the whole church let us confess our faith.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven. was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,* who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Gentle Shepherd, enable your church to respond to the voice of Jesus. Guide our bishops Michael Curry, Elizabeth Eaton, Don Kreiss and Bonnie Perry as they love and care for your people. Give us unfailing trust, unafraid to join in Jesus' work of renewing all things. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Feed your people at the table of creation. Prepare a safe place for those whose environments are dangerous or unhealthy, especially those fleeing their homes in the Ukraine. Prosper your creation for the sake of every living thing. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Warm the hearts of all who celebrate and all who mourn on Mother's Day. Accompany those yearning to be mothers. Help us to heal from broken family relationships and open us to receive your nurturing love from all who serve mothering roles in our lives. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Seek out those who weep while they await healing or consolation especially Leila. Set people in their path who can provide the care they need and wipe away every tear from their eyes.

God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Inspire the words of prophets and saints who use vivid images to stretch our understanding. Send Christ to instruct us with motherly care. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Enfold us in the great multitude of saints from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages. Wash us in your saving grace every day, guiding us to your waters of life. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

<u>MEAL</u>

OFFERING PRAYER

Living God,

you gather the wolf and the lamb to feed together in your peaceable reign, and you welcome us all at your table. Reach out to us through this meal, and show us your wounded and risen body, that we may be nourished and believe in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

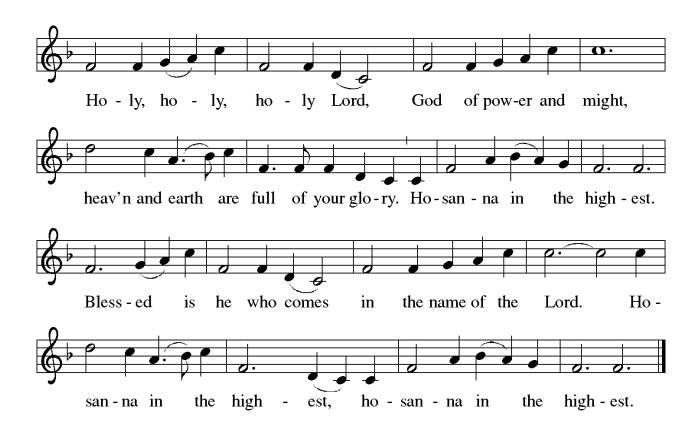
GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God. The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath. **We praise you, O God.**

Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future. **We bless you, O God.**

We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now. **We thank you, O God.**

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We pray for the gift of your Holy Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The risen Christ dwells with us here. All who are hungry, come to the feast

All are welcome at the table. Come forward at the direction of the usher. Hold your hand under the touch-less dispenser to receive the wafer. Return to your seat to consume it. If you would like to receive a blessing only, please place your arms across your chest.

NOW BEHOLD THE LAMB

Now behold the Lamb The Precious Lamb of God Born into sin that I may live again The Precious Lamb of God (REPEAT)

> Holy is the Lamb The Precious Lamb of God Why You love me so Lord I shall never know The Precious Lamb of God (REPEAT)

Verse 1: Now behold the Lamb The Precious Lamb of God Born into sin that I may live again He's the Precious Lamb of God I always didn't do right I went left He told me to go right But I'm standing right here In the midst of my tears Lord I claim You to be the Lamb of God

> Thank You for the Lamb The Precious Lamb of God Because of Your grace I can finish this race The Precious Lamb of God

Verse 2: Even when I broke Your heart My sins tore us apart But I'm standing right here In the midst of my tears I claim You to be the Lamb of God New life can begin For You wash away my sins Whom the Son sets free is free indeed I claim You to be the Lamb of God

Interlude

Oh oh oh (Repeat)

Bridge

Why You love me so Lord I shall never know Why You love me so Lord I shall never know Why You love me so Lord I shall never know The Precious Lamb of God

CCLI Song # 1892738 Kirk Franklin © 1995 Lilly Mack Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)

LET IT RISE

Let the glory of the Lord Rise among us Let the glory of the Lord Rise among us Let the praises of the King Rise among us Let it rise

Let the songs of the Lord Rise among us Let the songs of the Lord Rise among us Let the joy of the King Rise among us let it rise

Chorus

0 let it rise 0 let it rise

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray together.

We give you thanks, generous God, for in this bread we have tasted the new heaven and earth where hunger and thirst are no more. Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection, that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name. Amen.

<u>SENDING</u>

BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

God, the Author of life, Christ, the living Cornerstone, and the life-giving Spirit of adoption, + bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING SONG

THIS IS AMAZING GRACE

- 1 Who breaks the power of sin and darkness Whose love is mighty and so much stronger The King of Glory the King above all kings
- 2 Who shakes the whole earth with holy thunder And leaves us breathless in awe and wonder The King of Glory the King above all kings

(Yeah) (Oh) This is amazing grace This is unfailing love That You would take my place That You would bear my cross You laid down Your life That I would be set free Oh Jesus I sing for all that You've done for me 3 Who brings our chaos back into order Who makes the orphan a son and daughter The King of Glory the King of Glory

4 Who rules the nations with truth and justice Shines like the sun in all of its brilliance The King of Glory the King above all kings

Bridge

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain Worthy is the King who conquered the grave Worthy is the Lamb who was slain Worthy is the King who conquered the grave Worthy is the Lamb who was slain Worthy is the King who conquered the grave Worthy is the Lamb who was slain Worthy worthy worthy worthy

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DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia! Go in peace. Tell what God has done. Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Seek Ye First

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