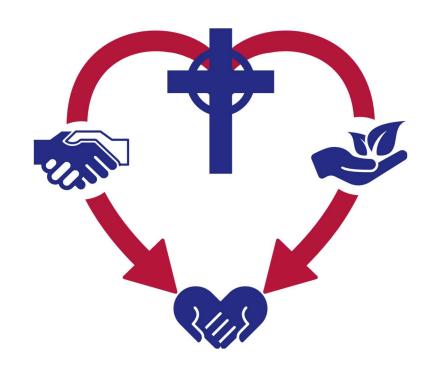
We are imperfect believers, passionate about sharing the love of Christ:

by Connecting, Growing, and Serving.



A Service of Worship for the Lord's Day Seventh Sunday of Easter May 12, 2024

Welcome! If you are visiting, please use the QR code on the visitor card found in the pew rack to share your information online or fill out the back of the card and drop it in the offering plate. Prayer cards, with the same options, are also available and we invite you to share your concerns and allow us to pray with you.



We Gather to Worship God

*Congregation stands as noted

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

Call to Worship (based on Psalm 118) Leader: God is our strength and salvation,

People: Therefore, we will sing with great joy! Leader: This is a day that the Lord has made, People: Let us be glad and rejoice in it!

Leader: O give thanks to God for he is good,

People: His love will never end! Praise the name of God! Amen!

Invocation

*Opening Hymn #806

"I'll Praise My Maker"

We Acknowledge Our Brokenness and Seek Reconciliation with God

Preparing Our Hearts for Confession - "Confession" Words/Music by Kenneth Jones (front cover of hymnal)

Lord, I come before you, asking your forgiveness. I am broken, I have faltered. I have turned from you. Create in me a new heart. Fill me with your love. Grant that I receive your grace, I pray. Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Amen.

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight. Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

Time of Silent Reflection and Personal Prayer of Confession

Leader: And all the people of Christ say,

People: Amen.

*Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Hear the Good news!

People: Who is in a position to condemn?

Leader: Only Christ,

People: And Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays

Leader: Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.

People: The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Leader: Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

*Thanks for God's Forgiveness (#647; no repeats)

Give thanks with a grateful heart; give thanks to the Holy One; give thanks because we're given Jesus Christ, the Son. And now let the weak say, "We are strong"; let the poor say, "We are rich because of what the Lord has done for us!" Give Thanks! Give Thanks!

*Passing of the Peace

Leader: Grace to you, and peace from God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

(remain standing)

*Transition Hymn #75

"We Give Thanks to You"

We Respond to God's Faithfulness in Our Life

Offering Our Lives to Jesus through Our Time, Gifts, and Resources (see the 'Giving' card in the pew rack for information about options for digital giving)

*Doxology (#606)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

God's Word Is Read and Proclaimed

Scripture Reading Psalm 146

Special Music "Love Divine" Chancel Choir
John Carter

Time for Young Disciples

(Children that have not yet finished 1st Grade are dismissed at this time for Children's Church)

Scripture Reading Mark 12:38-44

Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

Proclamation of God's Word Rev. Deborah Foster

"Without Reservation"

Responding to God's Word

*Affirmation of Our Faith (Brief Statement of Faith (11.2))

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain, and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

*Responsive Hymn #762

"When the Poor Ones"

Preparing Our Hearts for Prayer (#471)

"O Lord, Hear My Prayer"

O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call answer me.

O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and listen to me.

Prayers for the People and Lord's Prayer

Jennifer Massey

Respond: 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.

Sending Out Into the World

*Sending Hymn #711

"Lord of All Good"

*Charge and Blessing

*Congregational Benediction #246 (v.1)

"Christ Is Alive!"

*Postlude

<u>Sanctuary Flowers</u>: the flowers were placed in the sanctuary by Michael and Ann Paschall in honor of their mothers, Peggy Paschall and Millie Garrison.

Thank you for choosing to worship with us today. We hope you were blessed so you can go and be a witness to Christ's love in the world. May your spirits be renewed for the days ahead.



Rev. Preston Shealy, Bridge Interim Pastor Kenneth Jones, Director of Music Millie Shiflett, Accompanist Phil Beckwith, Lay Leader

