

Lord’s Day Worship

A DIVINE SERVICE OF COVENANT RENEWAL

FOURTH SUNDAY BEFORE EASTER

March 20, 2022

PRELUDE

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Quiet our minds, O God, and gladden our hearts; that, as we come together to worship you, we may draw near to your presence and find that this place is indeed the very gate of heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SILENT PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

GOD CALLS US

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 100

†HYMN OF PRAISE

“Before Jehovah’s Awesome Throne” (Psalm 100) Selection 65

†SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF PRAISE

Pastor: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: **And blessed be his Kingdom, now and forever!**

The LORD be with you!

And also with you! Ruth 2:4

Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good!

Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him! Ps. 34:8

For we have died, and our life is hidden with Christ in God.

When the Christ who is our life appears, Col.
we also will appear with him in glory. Alleluia! 3:3-4

Let us pray together:

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, you are slow to anger and full of mercy, welcoming sinners who return to you with penitent hearts, receiving in your loving embrace all who come home to you. Seat us at your bountiful table of grace, that, with all your children, we may feast with delight on all that satisfies our hunger and thirst for righteousness; through your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen!

GOD CLEANSSES US

Search me, O God, and know my heart!

Try me and know my thoughts!

See if there be any grievous way in me,

And lead me in the way everlasting. Ps. 139:23-24

+Silent Prayer of Confession +

Have mercy on me, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive me my sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold me by your Spirit that I may live and serve you in newness of life to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

†DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Now lift up your heads, and hear these words of comfort and good news from the Scriptures...

“In you, O LORD, do I take refuge; let me never be put to shame!.”
Psalm 71:1

Our heavenly Father, in his great mercy, has given his only Son to die for you, and for his sake forgives you all your sins; wherefore as Christ's minister and by his authority, I declare to you that all of your sins are forgiven, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen!

†*“Doxology”* Selection 733

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below: Alleluia, Alleluia! Praise him above, ye heavenly host, praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost: O praise him, O praise him, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

GOD CONVERSES WITH US

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 55:1-13

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

NEW TESTAMENT READING Acts 2:42-47

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

†GOSPEL READING Mark 6:30-44

This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ!

Praise be to you, O Christ!

†HYMN OF PRAISE

“Praise Him! Praise Him!” Selection 173

†We Respond by Confessing Our Faith *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 Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day He rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

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

†*“Gloria Patri”* Selection 735

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, World without end. Amen, Amen.

SERMON TEXT Isaiah 55:1-13

Pastor Justin Smith

†PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: In peace, we pray to you, Lord God. For all people in their daily life and work;

People: **For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the gospel, and all who seek the truth.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation...

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life...

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name forever and ever.

We give you thanks for all those who have died in Christ and whose souls are now in your presence as their bodies wait for the resurrection...

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

All these prayers, and even the desires of our hearts that are known only by your Holy Spirit, we offer to you, our Heavenly Father;

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen!

GOD COMMUNES WITH US

†COMMUNION HYMN

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence” Selection 193

†The Great Thanksgiving

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise!

Pastor: It is indeed right and good and a joyful thing, always and everywhere, to give thanks unto you, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God. Therefore, in union with the saints who have gone before us and the whole church on earth, we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

All: ***Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts; heaven and earth are full of your glory. Glory be to you, O Lord Most High!***

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

Prayer of Preparation & Faith

We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your steadfast love, which endures forever. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord, whose character is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Father, to partake of the body and blood of your son Jesus Christ, that we may grow into his likeness, and evermore abide in union with him, and he with us. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Bread

Pastor: Alleluia, Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us:
All: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

‡Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Wine

Pastor: Let us confess the mystery of our faith:
All: Christ has died, Christ is risen,
Christ will come again!

GOD COMMISSIONS US

†Prayer of Dedication

All gracious God, who of your infinite love gave your only begotten son, Jesus Christ, to die for our sins and rise again for our justification, and have made us partakers of your divine nature through the gift of the Holy Spirit; accept the fruits of our labors which we now present to you in this offering and also our very selves as we stand before you; and hear us as we pray as your Son taught us: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen!

†Hymn of Praise

“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah” Selection 598

†Pastoral Benediction

Pastor: The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace.

People: Amen!

†Those who are able are invited to stand.

Isaiah 55:1-13

- [1] Come, everyone who thirsts,
come to the waters;
and he who has no money,
come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price.
- [2] Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,
and your labor for that which does not satisfy?
Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.
- [3] Incline your ear, and come to me;
hear, that your soul may live;
and I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.
- [4] Behold, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander for the peoples.
- [5] Behold, you shall call a nation that you do not know,
and a nation that did not know you shall run to you,
because of the LORD your God, and of the Holy One of Israel,
for he has glorified you.
- [6] “Seek the LORD while he may be found;
call upon him while he is near;
- [7] let the wicked forsake his way,
and the unrighteous man his thoughts;
let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on
him,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.
- [8] For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD.
- [9] For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.
- [10] “For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven
and do not return there but water the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
- [11] so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.
- [12] “For you shall go out in joy
and be led forth in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall break forth into singing,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.
- [13] Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
and it shall make a name for the LORD,
an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.”



4th Sunday
Before Easter

March 20, 2022