# TRADITIONAL WORSHIP FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER May 19, 2019 11:00 A.M.

Together in Christ, Reaching Beyond Our Doors.

### **GATHERING TO PRAISE**

**PRELUDE** 

"Sonata in A" Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy

Oak Martin, organ

# WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, GETTING ACQUAINTED

Please take a moment to fill out the Attendance Card as it is passed.

### \*PASSING THE PEACE OF THE HEALING CHRIST

This is God's house – a place of peace where we befriend one another in the name of Christ. Greet those around you as a sign of God's peace and Christ's friendship.

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We are here

to worship a remarkable God.

ALL: The love of God welcomes us,

the grace of Christ awaits us,

the joy of the Spirit enfolds us.

One: Don't come as slaves, come as the truly free.

Don't come as timid petitioners, come as those who are already heard.

Don't come as party-crashers, come as invited guests.

Don't come as the outsiders, come as much-wanted children.

ALL: The love of God emboldens us..

The grace of Christ redeems us.

The joy of the Spirit uplifts us...even now!

\*HYMN OF PRAISE "God, Whose Love is Reigning o'er Us"

HONORING OUR GRADUATES

A TIME TO CELEBRATE OUR CHILDREN

"Jesus' Hands Were Kind Hands" (sung processional)

No. 100

Jesus' hands were kind hands, doing good to all, Healing pain and sickness, blessing children small, Washing tired feet, and saving those who fall; Jesus' hands were kind hands, doing good to all.

(sung recessional)

Take my hands, Lord Jesus, let them work for you; Make them strong and gentle, kind in all I do. Let me watch you, Jesus, till I'm gentle too, Till my hands are kind hands, quick to work for you.

**WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS** 

**CONNECTING WITH GOD IN PRAYER** 

PRAYER OF APPROACH (in unison)

Wonderful are you, God of Christ Jesus! By your Spirit, lead us in this time of worship that brims with possibility, that we may stretch beyond our knowledge and lift much higher than the mere words of our prayers. Set us free to allow in your hospitality and to enjoy you with the delight of a child. O hear the prayers of your people ...

### PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

No. 895

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

# **PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE**

**CHORAL ANTHEM** 

"Onward, Ye Peoples!"

Jean Sibelius

Guest Chancel Choir Director - Candice Wallace

Onward ye peoples, strive for the Light! The Light that the Lord hath given us for our guide; Who through murk and darkness of night Hath led us in safety unto our reward. See how the fiery pillar is gleaming, lighting our steps when dark is the way And the Light of the World, it cleaves the gloomy blackness of night that else would engulf us. See the cloudy pillar to shield us safe when the sun would blister us. Then forward where faith reveals the way, For God is our guide, and He will never fail. Fires are gleaming, voices are singing forth from Mount Neboh's heaven storming heights. Then forward where faith reveals the way, For God is our guide, and HE will never fail. Fires are gleaming, voices are singing forth from Mount Neboh's heaven storming heights. Salem! [Peace!] Salem! [Peace!] Still, they call us upward and on to our Father's home. Salem! Salem! On the horizon, urging us on to God and our home; And the heavenly choir doth ring from Mount Neboh, Piercing the blue like a living light. Onward, ye peoples. Onward, ye peoples. Strive for the Light. Salem! [Peace!]

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Gospel of John 9: 1-41

(NT p. 102)

Key verse: As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither ..."

Leader: The Word of God. All: For the People of God. Leader: Thanks be to God.

The Resurrection Shaped Life:

SERMON "Giving Up Shame and Blame"

CONFESSION TO BE FREE OF SHAME AND BLAME

(see below)

### **BRINGING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD**

OFFERTORY HYMN "Your Love, O God"

No. 120 (tune: Finlandia)

\*DOXOLOGY No. 94

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below. Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia!

\*PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

# **GOING OUT TO SERVE**

\*HYMN OF GOING FORTH "Help Us Accept Each Other"

No. 560

\*CHARGE AND BLESSING

\*CHORAL BENEDICTION "Shalom, Shalom" Diane Clark

\*POSTLUDE "Rhapsody No. 3" Herbert Howells

Oak Martin, organ

You are invited to remain seated for the postlude as part of your worship experience. (If you choose to exit the sanctuary during the postlude, please do so quietly. Thank you.)

\*All who are comfortable standing are invited to stand.

#### **CONFESSION TO BE FREE OF SHAME AND BLAME**

(Adapted from Bruce D. Prewer, Australia)

One: Love and mercy always awaits those who turn to God for forgiveness and wisdom.

All: Let us pray.

Left: God of the weak-willed and God of the strong, of the clever and the foolish, the humble and the powerful, please continue to have mercy on your people.

Right: Forgive the weak for giving in too easily when the pressures of work, family or community wear them down until they become irritable.

Left: Forgive the strong for pushing ahead with scant regard for those in their way, and for despising those who can't push back.

Right: Forgive the foolish for rushing into poor decisions, and then berating others when things go drastically wrong.

Left: Forgive the clever for using their skills and knowledge to overwhelm lesser intellects in order to get their own way.

Right: Forgive the humble for using their lowly status as an excuse for the evasion of responsibility when challenged by your Holy Spirit.

One: Lord have mercy. All: Lord have mercy. One: Christ have mercy. All: Christ have mercy. One: Lord have mercy All: Lord have mercy.

One: Most loving God, bring to bear on our lives the saving grace of Christ Jesus. Give us the desire and the courage to turn from unhelpful blaming and scape-goating. And help us not to be too proud to accept a breakthrough which asks nothing but our acceptance of it. Enable us to put right whatever we can, and to let go of the remainder, leaving it in your hands. Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen!

#### **DECLARING THE GOOD NEWS**

One: My friends you are set free: to be a forgiven people, and to become a forgiving people in all your dealings with those who sin against you.

All: Thanks be to God.