

Through him you
BELIEVE IN GOD,
who raised him
FROM THE DEAD
— and —
GLORIFIED HIM,
and so your
faith and hope
ARE IN GOD.



1 PETER 1:21, NIV

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 23, 2023

GATHERING

PRAYER FOR MEDITATION: *Almighty God, Jesus, our risen Lord, was made known to the disciples in the breaking of the bread. Open the eyes of our hearts that we may recognize his presence, and with his disciples cry, "The Lord has risen, indeed!" Through Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

RINGING OF THE CHIMES

OPENING SENTENCES *(Romans 6:9)*

Rev. Courtney Bowen

One: We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again;

ALL: *death no longer has dominion over him.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Courtney Bowen

PRELUDE

How Firm a Foundation

arr. by Hustad

Dr. Terry McRoberts

CHORAL INTROIT

Resurrection Alleluias

Hayes

Chancel Choir

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Callie Dollar

One: We have been walking, Lord,

ALL: *on roads of uncertainty and fear,
on roads of exhaustion and doubt,
on winding roads that have led us here.*

One: Join us on our journey, Lord.

ALL: *By your presence, refresh our spirits,
set our hearts ablaze,
and give us new direction!*

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN: 643 *Now Thank We All Our God*

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

PRAISE GOD AND CONFESS OUR SINS

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Courtney Bowen

When we say, "we don't sin," we deny who we are. But when we say, "there's no way out," we deny who God is. Trusting that God's grace is more powerful than our sin, let us confess our sins together.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Courtney Bowen

Sometimes our hearts ache within us, O Lord. Like those travelers on the Emmaus road, we feel the deep sadness about losing Jesus. Our sadness finds its roots in many things and we feel as though we cannot escape it. It becomes part and parcel of our conversations. Deep within, our spirits long for release and we silently cry. Forgive us when we close our eyes to your presence. Heal our brokenness. Bind up our wounds. Place us on the path of healing and help us to be people who will bring compassionate caring to others, for we ask these things in Jesus' name.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION AND REPENTANCE

Rev. Courtney Bowen

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Rev. Courtney Bowen

One: Hear the good news! New life is not only possible; it has drawn near to us in Jesus. The promise is for us, and for all the children of God.

ALL: *By the grace of God, the glory of Christ, and the gift of the Holy Spirit, we are forgiven and we are free! Alleluia! Amen.*

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: 447 We Are Forgiven

WE ARE FORGIVEN

We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Rev. Courtney Bowen

One: The peace of Jesus Christ be with you.

ALL: *And, also, with you.*

THE WORD

ANTHEM

Thine is the Glory

Handel

Chancel Choir

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Laura Byrd

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Courtney Bowen

*HYMN: 451 Open My Eyes, That I May See

OPEN MY EYES

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Callie Dollar

FIRST READING

1 Peter 1:17-23 (page 232-233)

Callie Dollar

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

ALL: *Thanks be to God.*

SECOND READING

Luke 24:13-35 (page 90)

Rev. Courtney Bowen

One: This is the word of God. The grass withers and the flower fades, but the word of the Lord endures forever.

ALL: *Thanks be to God.*

RESPONSE

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** from *A Brief Statement of Faith*

Callie Dollar

One: Let us confess what we believe.

ALL: *In life and death we belong to God.*

One: Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

ALL: *We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father.*

One: In sovereign love, God created the world good, acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation, and makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.

ALL: *We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.*

One: Jesus proclaimed the reign of God, was crucified, and raised from the dead, delivering us from death to life eternal.

ALL: *We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life.*

One: The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the church.

ALL: *In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, Come, Lord Jesus!*

(At this time, please find the red friendship pad located toward the center isle on each pew, sign it, pass it down your row and back again, taking note of those who worship with you.)

OFFERING

Callie Dollar

OFFERTORY

Voluntary in D Minor

Thiman

Dr. Terry McRoberts

*Doxology (Tune: 606)

OLD HUNDREDTH

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.

*Dedicatory Prayer

Callie Dollar

SENDING

***HYMN: 450** *Be Thou My Vision*

SLANE

***CHARGE + BENEDICTION**

Rev. Courtney Bowen

CHORAL BENEDICTION

Go with Us Lord

Tallis

Chancel Choir

POSTLUDE

Processional

Giasson

Dr. Terry McRoberts