

Westminster Presbyterian Church

May 15th, 2022 10:00am

Live Streaming In Person

Order of Worship Fifth Sunday of Easter

Welcome

Rev. Barbara Macfie

Call To Worship

Liturgist

L: From the heavens and from the heights,

C: Hallelujah! Praise the Lord!

L: Sun and moon, shining stars and hosts of heaven,

C: Hallelujah! Sing praise to the Lord!

L: From the earth, from the skies, from the deeps and the mountains,

C: Hallelujah! Praise the Lord!

L: Rulers and subjects, young and old, men and women, from near and far,

C: Hallelujah! Sing praise to the Lord!

L: We are gathered as God's people to praise the name of the Lord.

C: Come, let us worship the Lord together! Hallelujah!

Hymn

All Creatures of our God and King

GTG #15

1 All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing,
Alleluia! Alleluia!

O brother sun with golden beam, O sister moon with silver gleam,
sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

2 O brother wind with clouds and rain, you nurture gifts of fruit and grain.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

O sister water, flowing clear, make music for your Lord to hear.
Sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

3 O brother fire, so warm and bright, chase off the shadows of the night.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Dear mother earth, who day by day unfolds such blessings on our way,
sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

4 All who for love of God forgive, all who in pain or sorrow grieve,

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Christ bears your burdens and your fears; so, even in the midst of tears,
sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

5 And you, most gentle sister death, waiting to hush our final breath:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom, fair is the night that leads us home.
Sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

6 O sisters, brothers, take your part, and worship God with humble heart.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

All creatures, bless the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Three in One!

Sing praises! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

PREPARING FOR THE WORD

Call to Confession

Liturgist

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just. Let us pray:

Prayer of Confession

O God, giver of life, we confess the times when we failed to love our neighbors as we love ourselves. We confess the times when we have ignored or failed to see our neighbors in need. And, we confess the times when we did not tend to our own needs, and denied ourselves of your forgiveness and grace. In our failures, we have refused your invitation to grow closer to you. O God, we pray your abiding love be

shown through the ways we can learn to love more fully and to reach out to those in need. Hear us as we repent and pray for your forgiveness. Bless us with your grace and love. Amen.

Hear the good news! Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun.

Gloria Patri

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.

HEARING THE WORD

Prayer of Illumination

Liturgist

Gracious God, give us humble, teachable, and obedient hearts, that we may receive what you have Revealed, and do what you have commanded. Amen

New Testament Reading:

Acts 11: 1-18

Liturgist

1. The apostles and the believers throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him and said, "You went into the house of uncircumcised men and ate with them." Starting from the beginning, Peter told them the whole story: "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. I saw something like a large sheet being let down from heaven by its four corners, and it came down to where I was. I looked into it and saw four-footed animals of the earth, wild beasts, reptiles and birds. Then I heard a voice telling me, 'Get up, Peter. Kill and eat.' "I replied, 'Surely not, Lord! Nothing impure or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' "The voice spoke from heaven a second time, 'Do not call anything impure that God has made clean.' This happened three times, and then it was all pulled up to heaven again. "Right then three men who had been sent to me from Caesarea stopped at the house where I was staying. The Spirit told me to have no hesitation about going with them. These six brothers also went with me, and we entered the man's house. He told us how he had seen an angel appear in his house and say, 'Send to Joppa for Simon who is called Peter. He will bring you a message through which you and all your household

will be saved.' "As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit came on them as he had come on us at the beginning. Then I remembered what the Lord had said: 'John baptized with[a] water, but you will be baptized with[b] the Holy Spirit.' So if God gave them the same gift he gave us who believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I to think that I could stand in God's way?" When they heard this, they had no further objections and praised God, saying, "So then, even to Gentiles God has granted repentance that leads to life."

Hymn: We Will Not Curse What God Has Blessed

LYRICS

We will not curse what God has blessed,
Reject what God calls good,
Or call profane what God made clean
For God knows where our hearts have been
And God has understood.

We won't exclude when God has made
A table for us all,
No reason to despise or hate,
To second-guess another's state
Or judge another's call.

And so we pray Thy kingdom come,
Below as is above:
Each one of us a welcome guest.
How can we curse what God has blessed?
What God has blessed is love.

(Tune: Rest – Dear Lord and Father of Mankind)

When he was gone, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man is glorified and God is glorified in him. If God is glorified in him,[a] God will glorify the Son in himself, and will glorify him at once. "My children, I will be with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so I tell you now: Where I am going, you cannot come. "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

Anthem: What the World Needs Now

Sermon

Rev. Barbara Macfie

"Love One Another"

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Affirmation of Faith

Rev. Barbara Macfie

I believe in God almighty, creator of heaven and earth and in God's 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 from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. We 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.

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Rev. Barbara Macfie

Invitation To The Offertory

Liturgist

In the spirit of the first believers, we are called to share our goods in common and contribute to the needs of the poor with glad and generous hearts.

Offertory

Doxology

GTG #607

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. AMEN

Offertory Prayer

Liturgist

Oh God, we offer you the fruits of our time, our talents and resources in celebration of all that we have been given. We give you thanks for all that we have and ask a special blessing on what we have given back to help meet the needs of your beloved community. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

Hymn

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

GTG #366

1 Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling; all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion; pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.

2 Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast;
let us all in thee inherit; let us find the promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

3 Come, Almighty, to deliver; let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never, nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

4 Finish then thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee:
changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Benediction

Rev. Barbara Macfie

Postlude

Steve Johnson