

# A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

## *The Fourth Sunday of Easter*

April 21, 2024

10:00

am

\*All who are able may stand.

**Bold type spoken by the congregation**

### GATHERING. . .

The Prelude

*Pastorale for Flute and Oboe*  
Tina Christie, flute Brendan Shirk, oboe

A. Mancini

The Welcome and Announcements

This is the day the Lord has made. **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

The Introit

*Lanterns*

Birds of Tokyo

The Call To Worship

From Psalm 100

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

**Worship the Lord with gladness.  
Come into God's presence with singing.**

We are God's people, and the sheep of God's pasture.

**The Lord is good. God's steadfast love endures forever.  
God's faithfulness is to all generations.**

The Prayer of Adoration

**O God Most High, we praise you for the waters of baptism and the gift of the Holy Spirit. We give thanks for your faithful covenant love for us. You are steadfast and loving toward us and all creation. For the gift of faith, for the gift of life, for the gift of the Church we offer our thanks and praise. Lead us and this coming generation to follow you with joy and purpose, confident in your power and attentive to your glory. Amen.**

\*The Hymn 409

### *God Is Here*

*God is here! As we your people meet to offer praise and prayer,  
may we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share.*

*Here are symbols to remind us of our lifelong need of grace;  
here are table, font, and pulpit; here the cross has central place.*

*Here our children find a welcome in the Shepherd's flock and fold;  
here as bread and wine are taken, Christ sustains us as of old.*

*Lord of all, of church and kingdom, in an age of change and doubt  
keep us faithful to the gospel; help us work your purpose out.*

\*The Prayer of Confession

**Almighty and merciful God, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. Forgive us, we pray, and restore us. Grant, for Jesus' sake, that we may live a holy, just, and humble life now and all our days...silent prayer...Amen.**

\*Assurance of Pardon

In baptism we were buried with Christ. In baptism, we were raised to new life with him by the power of God.

**Thanks be to God! We will seek the things that are above. We seek the kingdom of God above all else. Amen.**

\*The 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*

\*The Peace and Greeting

The peace of Christ be with you all. **And also with you!**

(Please stand to greet one another in the name of Christ. For those worshipping at home, please share Christ's peace with someone outside your home this week.)

Confirmation Liturgy

*Service of Confirmation*  
*April 21, 2024*



Opening Statement

Presentation of the Confirmands

*Hailey Bothel*  
*Corey Chewing*  
*Jesse Chewing*

*Madison Early*  
*Sophie Early*  
*Dylan Nelen*

*Evelyn Oplinger*  
*Sam Valasko*  
*Cole Young*

Profession of Faith

Questions of Membership

Trusting in gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world. Do you?

Who is your Lord and Savior?

Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his word and showing his love?

Will you devote yourself to the church's teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and prayers?

Prayer for Confirmands

Welcome and Charge

Congregational Response

**With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome you into this community of faith. Grateful for the gifts you bring, we offer our prayers and support as we journey in faith together.**

*I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry. All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.  
I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?*

*REFRAIN: Here am I Lord. Is it I Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.*

*I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain. I have wept for love of them.  
They turn away. I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.  
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send? REFRAIN*

*I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame, I will set a feast for them.  
My hand will save. Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.  
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? REFRAIN*

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD. . .

The Prayer for Illumination

The Old Testament Lesson: *Ezekiel 34:11-16*

The Gospel Lesson: *John 10:11-18*

Anthem

*The Lord Is My Shepherd* from *Requiem*  
Brendan Shirk, oboe

John Rutter

*The Lord is my shepherd; therefore can I lack nothing.  
He shall feed me in a green pasture,  
And lead me forth beside the waters of comfort.  
He shall convert my soul and bring me forth in the paths of righteousness,  
for his Name's sake.  
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil.  
For thou art with me; Thy rod and thy staff comfort me.  
Thou shalt prepare a table for me against them that trouble me.  
Thou hast anointed my head with oil and my cup shall be full.  
But thy loving kindness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:  
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.*

Psalter Lesson: *Psalms 23*

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

The Sermon

*Accumulated Faith*

Kim Clayton

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD...

\*Affirmation of Faith

*The 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 Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Tithes and Offerings Presented

\*The Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

*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*

GOING FORTH AND SERVING IN GOD'S NAME

\*The Hymn 803

*My Shepherd Will Supply My Need  
My shepherd will supply my need; Jehovah is his name.  
In pastures fresh he makes me feed, beside the living stream.  
He brings my wandering spirit back when I forsake his ways,  
and leads me, for his mercy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.*

*When I walk through the shades of death your presence is my stay;  
one word of your supporting breath drives all my fears away.  
Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my table spread;  
my cup with blessing overflows; your oil anoints my head.*

*The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days;  
O may your house be my abode, and all my work be praise.  
There would I find a settled rest, while others go and come;  
no more a stranger, or a guest, but like a child at home.*

\*The Charge and Benediction

Postlude

*Allegro, from Concerto for Oboe*

B. Marcello

*Please be seated in personal reflection until the Postlude ends.*

*The flowers on the pulpit are given by the Ladies' Morning Bible Study Group in thanks to God for giving us Jen Rowe to lead us in our journey through the Bible each Thursday morning.*

**Today's Worship Leaders:**

*Preacher: Kim Clayton*

*Liturgists: Tim Tarzier, Brittany Harvey*

*Choirmasters: Mary Ann and Larry Casey*

*Organist: Amy Shirk*

*Ushers: Linda Benn, Marjolijn Bijlefeld*

*Elevator Assistant: Barry Hall*

*Sanctuary Guild: Mike and Michelle Gibson*

*Videographers: Kristen Betsill, Ed Foresman*

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