A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP
The Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 14, 2023
8:30 and 11:00 am

*All who are able may stand.

**Bold type spoken by the congregation**

GATHERING . . .

The Prelude

Largo

John M. Rasley

The Welcome and Announcements

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

The Introit

**To God Be the Glory**

The Call To Worship

We are not alone, we live in God’s world.

**Though we have been tested and tried as silver,**

God has kept us among the living.

Called to be the Church, we celebrate God’s presence.

**Though we go through fire and water,**

God brings us out to a spacious place.

**Bless our God, O peoples!**

The Prayer of Adoration

**Praise to you, O God of the universe! You have created sun and moon, stars and planets, and galaxies beyond our ability to number. We are in awe of all you have made. We praise your power over all things. We give thanks for your loving kindness in watching over each person, each being, every living thing. How marvelous and mysterious you are, O God! Beyond our comprehension, yet you draw near to make yourself known. We will forever praise you, Living God! Amen.**

*The Hymn 11

**Source and Sovereign, Rock and Cloud**

Source and Sovereign, Rock and Cloud, Fortress, Fountain, Shelter, Light, Judge, Defender,

Mercy, Might, Life whose life all life endowed:

**REFRAIN: May the church at prayer recall that no single holy name but the truth behind them all is the God whom we proclaim.**

Word and Wisdom, Root and Vine, Shepherd, Savior, Servant, Lamb, Well and Water,

Bread and Wine, Way who leads us to I AM: **REFRAIN**

Storm and stillness, Breath and Dove, Thunder, Tempest, Whirlwind, Fire, Comfort,

Counselor, Presence, Love, Energies that never tire: **REFRAIN**

*The Prayer of Confession

Forgive us, God, for we do not love as expansively as you love. We harbor suspicions; we guard our turf. We look at those who are different from us and judge them wrong or less than we are. Though you have colored the world with great diversity, we divide ourselves into camps of like-mindedness. We are divided by race and ethnicity, by politics and economic standing. Forgive us for our many divisions and for the prejudices we harbor. Heal us and bring us into the spacious presence of your Holy Spirit... silent prayer ...Amen.

*Assurance of Pardon

By God’s great mercy we have been saved by grace through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**We are now a new creation by the power of the Holy Spirit.**

Thanks be to God!

*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!**

(For those worshiping at home, please share Christ’s peace with someone outside Your home this week.)

**HEARING THE WORD OF GOD . . .**

The Prayer for Illumination

**The Psalter Lesson:** Psalm 66:8-20

**The Epistle Lesson:** 1 Peter 3:13-22

**The Anthem**

*Oh, Peter, Go Ring Dem Bells*  
Howard Helvey, arr.

Oh, Peter, go ring dem bells, Peter, go ring dem bells, I heard from heaven today.

I heard from heaven today, I heard from heaven today,

I heard from heaven today, I heard from heaven today,

I heard from heaven today, I heard from heaven today.

I wonder where my mother is gone, I wonder where my mother is gone,

I wonder where my mother is gone, I wonder where my mother is gone,

I wonder where my mother is gone, I wonder where my mother is gone.

I heard from heaven today, I heard from heaven today, I heard from heaven today.

In life, in death,
in life beyond death,
God is with us.
We are not alone.
Thanks be to God.

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
Doxology, Hymn 606
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 SERVE IN GOD’S NAME

*The Hymn 318

In Christ There Is No East or West

In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north,
but one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide earth.

In Christ shall true hearts everywhere their high communion find;
his service is the golden cord close-binding humankind.

Join hands, disciples of the faith, whate’er your race may be.
All children of the living God are surely kin to me.

In Christ now meet both east and west; in him meet south and north.
All Christly souls are one in him throughout the whole wide earth

*.The Charge and Benediction

Postlude

He Reigns Triumphant

James Denton

The flowers today are given by Irene Repanshek in loving memory of her husband, Larry, and in honor of
mothers everywhere.

The rosebud on the pulpit rail celebrates the birth of Lachlan Ceann Barnes, born May 8, 2023. Lachlan is the
son of Kyle and Brittany Barnes, brother of Cillian and Braiden Barnes, and grandson of Connie Barnes.

Today’s Worship Leaders:

Preacher: Kim Clayton
Liturgists: Porter Blakemore, Brittany Harvey
Choirmasters: Mary Ann and Larry Casey
Organist: Amy Shirk

Fairest Lord Jesus – Münster Gesangbuch, 1677; stanzas 1,3, trans. Church Chorals and Choir Studies, 1850, alt.; stanza 4, tan. Joseph August Seiss, 1873, alt.; Public Domain
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