

WELCOME & OPENING SENTENCES

Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Leader: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to the Lord.

PRELUDE

Just As I Am, arr. R. Bennett¹

CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 30

Leader: O Lord our God, we praise you.
People: We cried to you for help and you answered us.
Leader: You have restored our lives;
People: you have rescued us from the grave.

PRAYER OF ADORATION

***HYMN 662**

Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies, Ratisbon²

1 Christ, whose glory fills the skies; Christ, the true, the only light; Sun of Righteousness, arise; triumph o'er the shades of night; Dayspring from on high, be near; Daystar, in my heart appear.

2 Dark and cheerless is the morn unaccompanied by thee; joyless is the day's return till thy mercy's beams I see; till they inward light impart, cheer my eyes and warm my heart.

3 Visit then this soul of mine; pierce the gloom of sin and grief; fill me, radiancy divine; scatter all my unbelief; more and more thyself display, shining to the perfect day.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Lord God, in the light of your glory we see the evil we have done, the suffering we have caused, the good we have refused, and the truth we have denied. Heal us of our sin, wash us in your mercy, and feed us with your grace, so that we may follow your way and tell the good news of the gospel (continue with silent confession...) **Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Psalm 30:11

Leader: Rise up from the dust! Cast off the shroud of sorrow and put on the joy of the Lord. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

People: Thanks be to God.

*ACCLAMATION HYMN 587

Alleluia!, Celtic Alleluia³

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE - After, children may join Children's Time in room 11.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalm 30⁴

After the cantor sings, the congregation will sing the refrain when indicated with "refrain."

REFRAIN

All with joyful exultation let us sing to God our praise;
to the Rock of our salvation loud hosannas raise

1 Lord, we sing with joyful voices; your great power can lift and save;
By your healing touch, revive us, life restore beyond the grave. REFRAIN

2 Praise to you, our sure salvation, You, the Holy One above.
End the night so dimmed by anguish, with your light of peace and love. REFRAIN

3 Change our sorrow to rejoicing, clothe with gladness all despair;
Cause unsteady feet that stumble now to dance beneath your care. REFRAIN

4 Dry the tears we shed in mourning, give us steadfast hope always;
Fill our hearts with expectation; fill our songs with thanks and praise. REFRAIN

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Acts 9:1-20

Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went

to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank. Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, and after taking some food, he regained his strength. For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God."

SERMON

Eyes Wide Open

*HYMN 231

Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers, Suo Gan⁵

1 Christ has risen while earth slumbers, Christ has risen where hope died, as he said and as he promised, as we doubted and denied. Let the moon embrace the blessing; let the sun sustain the cheer; let the world confirm the rumour. Christ is risen, God is here!

2 Christ has risen for the people whom he loved and died to save; Christ has risen for the women bringing flowers to grace his grave Christ has risen for disciples huddled in an upstairs room. He whose word inspired creation is not silenced by the tomb.

3 Christ has risen and forever lives to challenge and to change all whose lives are messed or mangled, all who find religion strange. Christ is risen. Christ is present making us what he has been – evidence of transformation in which God is known and seen.

CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys and Concerns
Pastoral Prayer

PRAYER RESPONSE HYMN 243 *Be Not Afraid*, Taize Ecumenical Community⁶
Be not afraid; sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia! Be not afraid; sing out for joy!
Christ is risen, alleluia!

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you,

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise (*prayer continues...*) Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with the heavenly choirs and with all the faithful of every time and every place who forever sing to the glory of your name:

People: Sanctus Hymn 559 - Holy, Holy, Holy⁷

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

Leader: You are holy, O God of majesty (*prayer continues...*) Now accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to be a holy offering of ourselves, That our lives may proclaim the One crucified and risen.

People: Memorial Acclamation Hymn 560 - Christ Has Died, Christ Is Risen⁸
Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Leader: Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us (*prayer continues...*) We pray the prayer taught to us by our Lord Jesus Christ:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BREAKING OF BREAD AND POURING OF CUP

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION 227

Jesus, Remember Me, Taize Ecumenical Community⁹

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (unison)

God of grace, you renew us at your table with the bread of life. May this food strengthen us in love and help us to serve you in each other. We ask in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen.

*HYMN 726

Will You Come and Follow Me, Kelvingrove¹⁰

1 Will you come and follow me if I but call your name? Will you go where you don't know and never be the same? Will you let my love be shown? Will you let my name be known? Will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

2 Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name? Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same? Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare? Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?

3 Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name? Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same? Will you kiss the leper clean and do such as this unseen and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?

4 Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call your name? Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same? Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?

5 Lord your summons echoes true when you but call my name. Let me turn and follow you and never be the same. In Your company I'll go where Your love and footsteps show thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Toccata, T. Dubois¹¹

WORSHIP NOTES:

Offerings and friendship forms may be placed in the plates as you exit the sanctuary. Join us for coffee fellowship after worship downstairs. Adult Sunday School/sermon talk-back with Pastor Scott will be in the MJB Lounge at 11:00am.

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5 Text: John Bell and Graham Maule, 1988. Music: Welsh Melody; arr. Alfred V. Fedak, 2011. Text: ©1988 WGRG, Iona Community (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.). Music: ©2011 Alfred V. Fedak. Used by Permission. All rights reserved. Used by Permission. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-703704.

6 Text: Taize Ecumenical Community, 1998 Music: Jacques Berthier, 1998. Text and Music: ©1998, Les Presses de Taize (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.) Used by Permission. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-703704.

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11 Music Setting by Theodore Dubois: Public Domain

Leaders Today:

Pastor: Rev. Scott Anderson

Minister of Music: Joe Chrisman

Liturgist: Liane Kosaki

AV/Tech: John Tarr



ANNOUNCEMENTS

At the Westminster Session meeting this evening, the Session adopted the following COVID-related policy changes, effective May 1, 2022:

*All participants in indoor church activities are strongly encouraged to be fully vaccinated and boosted.

*Mask-wearing inside the building, including for Sunday worship, be optional but encouraged for those in higher risk categories (such as the elderly and the immunocompromised). Those who have tested positive for COVID within the last 10 days or who are exhibiting symptoms are encouraged to stay home.

*Sunday morning coffee fellowship return to the Narthex.

*We continue to offer disposable masks at the church entry points and make hand sanitizer widely available throughout the gathering spaces in the building.

May 8th:

*We return to the traditional method of receiving the Sunday morning offering, utilizing ushers and the offering plates.

Spring Sing!

The Chancel Choir will next participate in worship on May 8. If you are interested in singing, please join us in the sanctuary at 9:00 a.m. that morning for rehearsal of the piece that will be sung in the worship at 9:45 a.m. If you would like to have the music sooner, you may request a copy from Joe Chrisman, Minister of Music, any Sunday before May 8.

Prayer Doves for Peace

Please join us in praying for peace in our world. You are invited to stop by the Prayer Doves for Peace table in the narthex and add your prayers for peace. Write or draw your prayer on one of our peace doves and leave it in the basket. These prayers will be used to create a prayerful art installation for Pentecost.

Cat Needs Home

Ann Friedley is looking for a loving home for her 3-year old black cat named "Lovie." If you are interested in learning more about Lovie, call Ann at 608-310-9837.

Church Women United

Church Women United celebrates May Friendship Day annually and this year Church Women United-Madison will be celebrating it "in person" on Friday May 6th 9:30 am to 12:30 pm. at Covenant Presbyterian Church. There will be a special worship and our Hilda McCreight will be honored as "Valiant Woman of the Year". Hilda will also be the featured speaker talking about Friendship throughout the course of her 102 years of life. We hope you will consider attending this special event. There is an option for a box lunch at a cost of \$8 – so contact Ruth Hein to order the box lunch by May 1. May Friendship Day is the day that the Least Coin Collections are received and dedicated, so Circles please get your Least Coin Collection to Ruth Hein by May 4.

Forum Last Sunday

We've had a few reach out on where they can make direct donations to the Meadowood Neighborhood Association (from the forum last Sunday). Here is the information:
Meadowood Health Partnership c/o Sheray Wallace
PO Box 45528, Madison, WI 53744
Include your name and address for tax purposes.

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS...

Care List: Nell Seiberlich, Shirley Toomey, Kathy Waggener, Wade Waggener
Jerry Donnell, Joyce Schultz, Judy Braucht

Members & Friends: Ken Kummerow (Lu's nephew), Pat Marshall, Joel Jones & family,
Vicki Cothroll