

Lord’s Day Worship

A DIVINE SERVICE OF COVENANT RENEWAL

FOURTH SUNDAY IN EASTER

April 25, 2021

PRELUDE

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Quiet our minds, O God, and gladden our hearts; that, as we come together to worship you, we may be open to your presence and find that this place is indeed the very gate of heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SILENT PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

GOD CALLS US

CALL TO WORSHIP

Hebrews 10:19-23

†HYMN OF PRAISE

"The God of Abraham Praise" (Verses 1-3, 5-6)..... Selection 34

†SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF PRAISE

Pastor: We gather to worship in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit!

People: Amen!

The LORD be with you!

And also with you!

Ruth 2:4

Our help is in the name of the LORD,

The maker of heaven and earth!

Ps. 124:8

For we have died, and our life is hidden with Christ in God.

**When the Christ who is our life appears,
we also will appear with him in glory. Alleluia!**

Col.

3:3-4

Let us pray together:

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, you are slow to anger and full of mercy, welcoming sinners who return to you with penitent hearts, receiving in your loving embrace all who come home to you. Seat us at your bountiful table of grace, that, with all your children, we may feast with delight on all that satisfies our hunger and thirst for righteousness; through your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen!

GOD CLEANSSES US

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 offended against your holy laws. 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.

+Silent Prayer of Confession +

O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare those who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to the world in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O merciful Father, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of your holy Name. Amen.

†DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Now lift up your heads, and hear these words of comfort and good news from the Scriptures...

*"To those who are called, beloved in God and kept for Jesus Christ:
May mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you."*

Jude 1b-2

Our heavenly Father, in his great mercy, has given his only Son to die for you, and for his sake forgives you all your sins; wherefore as Christ's minister and by his authority, I declare to you that all of your sins are forgiven, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen!

†*"Doxology"* Selection 733

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below: Alleluia, Alleluia! Praise him above, ye heavenly host, praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost: O praise him, O praise him, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

GOD CONVERSES WITH US

OLD TESTAMENT READING..... Genesis 22:9-19

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

NEW TESTAMENT READING 1 Peter 1:3-13

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

†GOSPEL READING Matthew 28:1-10, 16-20

This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ!

Praise be to you, O Christ!

†HYMN OF PRAISE

"Praise Him! Praise Him!" Selection 173

†We Respond by Confessing Our Faith..... *The Nicene Creed*

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds; God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made.

Who, for us men and for our salvation, came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us, under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and is seated on the right hand of the

Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to judge the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen!

†*"Gloria Patri"* Selection 735

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.

SERMON TEXT. Hebrews 6:13-20

"Jesus Our Anchor" Pastor Josh Anderson
XVI. Exposition of the Epistle to the Hebrews

GOD COMMUNES WITH US

†COMMUNION HYMN

"Of the Father's Love Begotten" Selection 162

†The Great Thanksgiving

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord!

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise!

Pastor: It is indeed right and good and a joyful thing, always and everywhere, to give thanks unto you, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God. Therefore, with the angels and the archangels, and with all the company of heaven, along with the whole church on earth, we laud and magnify your glorious name, ever more praising you, and saying:

All: Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts; heaven and earth are full of your glory. Glory be to you, O Lord Most High!

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

Prayer of Preparation & Faith

We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your steadfast love, which endures forever. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord, whose character is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Father, to partake of the body and blood of your son Jesus Christ, that we may grow into his likeness, and evermore abide in union with him, and he with us. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Bread

Pastor: Alleluia, Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us:

All: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

‡Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Wine

Pastor: Let us confess the mystery of our faith:

**All: Christ has died, Christ is risen,
Christ will come again!**

GOD COMMISSIONS US

‡Prayer of Dedication

All gracious God, who of your infinite love gave your only begotten son, Jesus Christ, to die for our sins and rise again for our justification, and have made us partakers of your divine nature through the gift of the Holy Spirit; accept the fruits of our labors which we now present to you in this offering and also our very selves as we stand before you; and hear us as we pray as your Son taught us: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen!

‡Hymn of Praise

"Come, Christians, Join to Sing" Selection 302

‡Pastoral Benediction

Pastor: The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace.

People: Amen!

‡Those who are able are invited to stand.

Hebrews 6:13-20

[13] For when God made a promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore by himself, [14] saying, “Surely I will bless you and multiply you.” [15] And thus Abraham, having patiently waited, obtained the promise. [16] For people swear by something greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an oath is final for confirmation. [17] So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he guaranteed it with an oath, [18] so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us. [19] We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain, [20] where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.



Fourth Sunday
in Easter

April 25, 2021

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